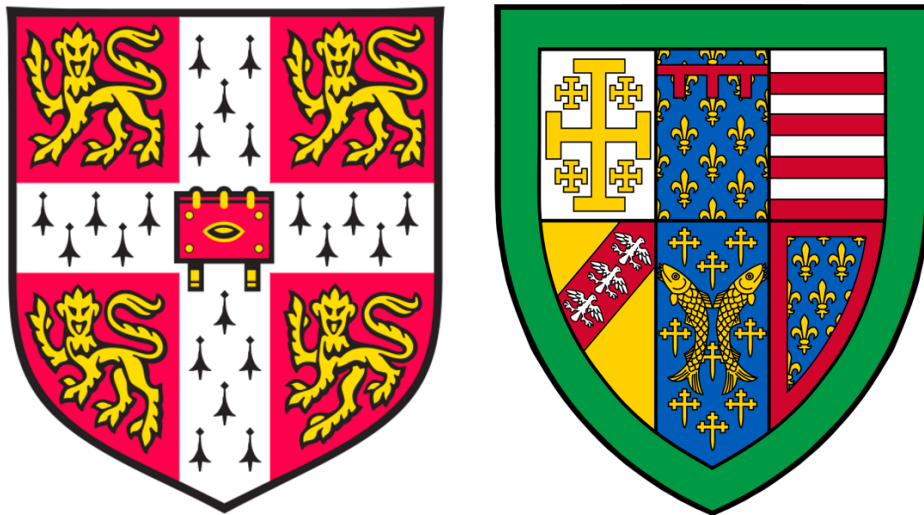


Deciphering pre-leukaemic dysregulation caused by mutant C/EBP α at the level of the single cell



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This dissertation is submitted for the degree of

Doctor of Philosophy

Declaration

This thesis is the result of my own work and includes nothing which is the outcome of work done in collaboration except as declared in the Acknowledgments and specified in the text. It is not substantially the same as any that I have submitted, or, is being concurrently submitted for a degree or diploma or other qualification at the University of Cambridge or any other University or similar institution except as declared in the Acknowledgments and specified in the text. I further state that no substantial part of my thesis has already been submitted, or, is being concurrently submitted for any such degree, diploma or other qualification at the University of Cambridge or any other University or similar institution except as declared in the Acknowledgments and specified in the text. It does not exceed the prescribed word limit for the relevant Degree Committee

Moosa Qureshi

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Abstract

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Moosa Rashid Qureshi

C/EBP α is an ideal candidate to explore pre-leukaemic dysregulation of transcriptional networks because it is a significant player in normal myelopoiesis, it interacts with other transcription factors (TFs) in lineage specification, and the *CEBPA* gene has been identified as an early mutation in acute myeloid leukaemia (AML). N321D is a mutation affecting the leucine zipper domain of C/EBP α which has previously generated an aggressive AML phenotype in a mouse model.

The first objective of my thesis was to construct a novel *in vitro* cellular model to recapitulate pre-leukaemic changes associated with the *CEBPA* N321D mutation. The conditionally immortalised murine Hoxb8-FL cell line can differentiate into relatively homogenous populations of functional myeloid, lymphoid and dendritic cells in appropriate cell culture conditions. These cells were transduced with retroviral vectors which expressed either no transgene or “Empty Vector” (EV), the *CEBPA* wildtype (WT) or N321D mutation. *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells had immature morphological appearance in Flt3L differentiation media, proliferated indefinitely, and were characterised by a plasmacytoid dendritic cell (pDC)-like immunophenotype. These cells were capable of long-term engraftment in a mouse model but did not recapitulate leukaemia for several months after transplantation.

The second objective was to characterise the transcriptional deregulation associated with the phenotypes demonstrated by EV, *CEBPA* WT and N321D-expressing cells in the presence of Flt3L. Single cell RNA-seq (scRNA-seq) confirmed phenotypic observations that *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells had a pDC precursor-like gene expression signature when placed in Flt3L conditions of differentiation. Single cell analysis also identified transcriptional heterogeneity in the *CEBPA* N321D compartment at single cell resolution.

The third objective was to use ChIP-seq to investigate the effect of the N321D mutation on C/EBP α 's TF binding profile, and correlate this with scRNA-seq data to identify a set of candidate genes (*NOTCH2*, *JAK2*, *SIRPA*, *FOS*, and others) where gene expression changes were associated with direct binding events by the mutant TF.

In addition to characterising the transcriptional effects of the *CEBPA* mutation, a fourth objective was to update and expand the Göttgens group's CODEX database of TF-binding and histone modification data for human blood cells, increasing annotation of the genome to 14.83%. This online database now provides significant coverage of the non-coding portion of the genome, and is therefore potentially of interest to the wider haematology research community.

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Abbreviations

AML	Acute Myeloid Leukaemia
APC	Antigen Presenting Cell
APML	Acute Promyelocytic Leukaemia
ASAP	Automated Single-cell Analysis Pipeline
BMDC	Bone Marrow derived Dendritic Cell
BMS	Bone Marrow Stroma
BR	Basic Region
bZIP	basic-region leucine Zipper
C/EBP	CCAAT/Enhancer Binding Protein
cDC	Conventional Dendritic Cell
cDNA	Complementary DNA
CDP	Common Dendritic cell Progenitor
CHIP	Clonal Haematopoiesis of Indeterminate Potential
ChIP	Chromatin Immunoprecipitation
ChIP-seq	Chromatin Immunoprecipitation Sequencing
CLP	Common Lymphoid Progenitor
CMGA	Complex Molecular Genetic Abnormalities
CML	Chronic Myeloid Leukaemia
CMP	Common Myeloid Progenitor
CRISPR	Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats
CytoF	Cytometry by Time Of Flight
DC	Dendritic Cell
DGE	Differential Gene Expression
dm	double mutated
DMEM	Dulbecco's Modified Eagle's Medium
DMSO	Dimethyl Sulfoxide
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic Acid
dNTP	Deoxynucleotide Triphosphates
dT	Deoxythymine
EDTA	Ethylenediaminetetraacetic Acid
ENCODE	ENCyclopaedia Of DNA Elements
ERCC	External RNA Controls Consortium

EV	Empty Vector
FAB	French-American-British (AML Classification System)
FACS	Fluorescence-Activated Cell Sorting
FBS	Foetal Bovine Serum
G-CSF	Granulocyte-Colony Stimulating Factor
GEO	Gene Expression Omnibus
GFP	Green Fluorescent Protein
GM-CSF	Granulocyte Macrophage-Colony Stimulating Factor
GMP	Granulocyte Macrophage Progenitor
GO	Gene Ontology
GRN	Gene Regulatory Network
GWAS	Genome-wide Association Study
HEPES	4-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-1-Piperazineethanesulfonic Acid
HPC-7	Haematopoietic precursor cell-7
HSC	Haematopoietic Stem Cell
HSPC	Haematopoietic Stem and Progenitor Cells
IFN	Interferon
IL-3	Interleukin 3
ImmGen	Immunological Genome
IRES	Internal Ribosome Entry Site
LIC	Leukaemia Initiating Cell
LMPP	Lymphoid-Primed Multipotent Progenitor
LSK	Lin ⁻ Sca-1 ⁺ c-Kit ⁺
LT-HSC	Long-Term HSC
LZ	Leucine Zipper
MACS	Model-based Analysis of ChIP-seq
mChrom1	mouse Chromosome 1
M-CSF	Macrophage-Colony Stimulating Factor
MDP	Monocyte/Macrophage Dendritic Cell Progenitor
MDS	Myelodysplastic Syndrome
MEP	Megakaryocyte Erythrocyte Progenitor
MHC	Major Histocompatibility Complex
MLL	Mixed Lineage Leukaemia
MLP	Multi-Lymphoid Progenitor
MPP	Multipotent Progenitor

mRNA	messenger RNA
NOD SCID	Non-Diabetic with Severe Combined Immunodeficiency Disease
NGS	Next Generation Sequencing
NSG	NOD SCID Gamma
PBS	Phosphate Buffered Saline
PCA	Principal Component Analysis
PCR	Polymerase Chain Reaction
pDC	Plasmacytoid Dendritic Cell
PBS	Phosphate Buffered Saline
qPCR	Quantitative PCR
RNA	Ribonucleic acid
RPMI	Roswell Park Memorial Institute Medium
sc	single cell
SCF	Stem Cell Factor
Scl	Stem cell leukaemia
SD	Sequencing Depth
shRNA	short hairpin RNA
smFISH	single-molecule Fluorescence <i>In Situ</i> Hybridisation
SNP	Single Nucleotide Polymorphism
SNR	Signal-to-Noise Ratio
ST-HSC	Short-term HSC
TAD	Transactivation Domain
TAE	Tris/Acetic Acid/EDTA Buffer
TBE	Tris/Borate/EDTA Buffer
TBS	Tris Buffered Saline
TE	Tris/EDTA
TF	Transcription Factor
t-SNE	t-Distributed Stochastic Neighbour Embedding
TSS	Transcription Start Site
UCSC	University of California Santa Cruz (Genome Browser)
UMI	Unique Molecular Identifier
URE	Upstream Regulatory Element
WGS	Whole Genome Screening
WT	Wildtype

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1. Introduction

My PhD thesis undertakes single cell analysis of pre-leukaemic transcriptional dysregulation caused by *CEBPA* N321D, and describes a dendritic cell phenotype following expression of this mutation during early haematopoiesis. In this introductory chapter, I first present current paradigms of normal and malignant haematopoiesis, focusing on early progenitors and leukaemia initiation, and placing my cellular model and dendritic cells within this framework. I then present a general synopsis of the transcriptional control of haematopoiesis, before undertaking a detailed examination of C/EBP α 's role in that process. Finally, I give a brief overview of how single cell technology is changing current paradigms of haematopoiesis and its transcriptional regulation.

1.1 Normal haematopoiesis

1.1.1 Haematopoietic stem cells and progenitor populations

Haematopoietic stem cells (HSCs) are defined by dual properties of multipotency and self-renewal as demonstrated by serial transplantation experiments, whereas haematopoietic progenitor cells are characterised by lineage restriction and limited self-renewal capacity in irradiated mouse models (Weissman *et al*, 2001, Oguro *et al*, 2013). This paradigm of normal haematopoiesis was heralded by Till and McCulloch's seminal finding that rescuing irradiated mice with bone marrow transplantation led to splenic "bumps" capable of reconstituting heterogeneous haematopoietic lineages (Till *et al*, 1961), and experimental proof of clonality in these splenic colonies (Becker *et al*, 1963). Over the following decades, it was established that normal haematopoiesis is regulated by intricate combinatorial networks (Wilson *et al*, 2010) which maintain self-renewal, lineage specification, differentiation, and apoptotic programs to maintain a steady state with physiologically advantageous populations of blood cells.

Initial characterisation of haematopoiesis by flow cytometry of bulk cell populations employed cell surface markers to define a strictly hierarchical tree structure, starting with Lin⁻ Sca-1⁺ c-kit⁺ (LSK) CD150⁺ CD48⁻ long-term HSCs (LT-HSCs) at the top of the hierarchy (Kiel *et al*, 2005), differentiating down to LSK CD34⁺ short-term HSCs (ST-HSCs) (Yang *et al*, 2005), and then making a cell fate decision to bifurcate into either a common lymphoid precursor (CLP) (Lin⁻ IL-7R⁺ Thy-1⁻ Sca-1^{lo} c-kit^{lo} ; Kondo *et al*, 1997) or a common myeloid precursor (CMP) (Lin⁻ IL-

7R⁻ Sca-1⁻ c-kit⁺ FcγR^{lo} CD34⁺ ; Akashi *et al*, 2000). Further cell fate choices to differentiate into either megakaryocyte erythroid progenitor (MEP) (CD16/32^{lo} CD41⁻ CD150⁺ CD105^{lo} ; Pronk *et al*, 2007) or granulocyte monocyte progenitor (GMP) (CD16/32^{hi} CD41^{lo} ; Akashi *et al*, 2000) cells were followed finally by terminally differentiated cells. This series of discrete steps was redefined as additional surface markers were identified, by the identification of macrophages and dendritic cells arising from early lymphoid progenitors (Doulatov *et al*, 2010), the finding of lymphoid-primed multipotent progenitor (LMPP) cells in the LSK Flt3⁺ compartment lacking erythro-megakaryocytic potential (Adolfsson *et al*, 2005), and the classification of functionally distinct lineage-primed multipotent progenitors (MPPs) (Pietras *et al*, 2015).

In fact, alongside these bulk population studies, more precise experiments were redefining the architecture of the haematopoietic landscape from as early as 2013, when single cell transplantation studies suggested that lineage restriction can be found in mouse HSCs (Naik *et al*, 2013, Yamamoto *et al*, 2013). John Dick and colleagues confirmed this effect in humans by observing divergence of erythro-megakaryocytic lineage from bone marrow HSC-MPPs (Notta *et al*, 2016). Extensive granddaughter-tracing experiments have found that most cells inherit ancestral lineage bias from early progenitor cells including HSCs, that bias is amplified by bias-inheriting progeny, but also that lineage bias switching can infrequently be observed (Lee *et al*, 2017). This same study suggested that dendritic cell lineage bias can be identified in HSCs, is characterised by specific transcriptional programs correlated with relative IRF8:PU.1 ratios, and is heritable and reinforced over progressive cell division.

It is important when performing *in vitro* experiments to recognise that cell-extrinsic signalling from the bone marrow microenvironment also plays a significant role in HSC differentiation pathways. HSCs home in to distinct endosteal (Calvi *et al*, 2003) and vascular (Kiel *et al*, 2005) niches with varied cell composition such as osteoblasts and mesenchymal stromal cells. This leads to heterogeneous HSC-niche interactions with diversity provided by extra-cellular signals from cytokines, cytokine-receptor profiles of individual HSCs, and cell-to-cell interactions. Cytokine-mediated modulation of HSC cell fate decisions is well characterised, for instance thrombopoietin signalling is essential for megakaryocyte-biased HSCs (Sanjuan-Pla *et al*, 2013). In addition, the biophysical properties of the niche are heterogeneous throughout the bone marrow, and it has been shown that LSK HPC cell fate can be modulated by varying the extracellular collagen matrix stiffness (Chitteti *et al*, 2015).

1.1.2 LMPP cells

Downstream of HSCs, the Jacobsen group identified LSK Flt3⁺ LMPP cells, challenging the prevailing consensus position that HSCs committed strictly to common myeloid or common lymphoid progenitor lineages (Adolfsson *et al*, 2005). Human LMPP cells are Lin⁻ CD34⁺ CD38⁻ CD90^{-/lo} CD45RA⁺ CD10⁻ and have granulocytic, monocytic and lymphoid potential, but lack erythro-megakaryocytic potential. More recently, human LMPP cells have been divided by CD10 and CD45RA cell surface markers into two subpopulations, one with almost entirely lymphoid potential and another one with lympho-myeloid potential (Karamitros *et al*, 2018). In the same study, single cell RNA-seq has suggested heterogeneity in human lympho-myeloid progenitors at the level of the single cell, and that the transcriptional signature of LMPP cells exists in a continuum with granulocyte-macrophage progenitor (GMP) and multi-lymphoid progenitor (MLP) populations (Karamitros *et al*, 2018).

1.1.3 Hoxb8-FL cells

The Hoxb8-FL cell line has been employed in our experiments to model pre-leukaemic changes, and it is therefore useful to place it within the hierarchical model of haematopoiesis and characterise its phenotype and functionality. Hoxb8-FL cells demonstrate phenotypic and functional similarities to LMPP cells, but have a distinct lin⁻ Sca-1⁻ c-kit⁺ cd34⁺ Flt3⁺ cell surface marker profile, suggesting that they lie downstream of Sca-1⁺ LMPP cells (Redecke *et al*, 2013). Principal component analysis (PCA) of microarray-based gene expression clusters Hoxb8-FL cells in between myeloid and lymphoid branches extending down from LMPP cells (Redecke *et al*, 2013). Conditional Hoxb8 expression by fusing the N terminus of Hoxb8 to the estrogen-binding domain of the estrogen receptor and expressing the fused cDNA in lineage-negative progenitor cells as a retroviral expression vector was first published in 2006 as a method to immortalise neutrophil or macrophage progenitors in medium containing stem cell factor (SCF) or granulocyte-macrophage colony-stimulating factor (GM-CSF) (Wang *et al*, 2006). Redecke *et al* cultured these cells in the presence of estrogen and Flt3L, and found that these conditions promoted exponential growth of blast-like Hoxb8-FL cells (Redecke *et al*, 2013). Upon withdrawing estradiol, Hoxb-FL cells differentiated over 6 days into a bi-phenotypic dendritic cell (DC) population of CD11b⁺ CD11c⁺ MHC class II⁺ B220⁻ PDCA1⁻ conventional dendritic cells (cDCs) and CD11b⁻ CD11c⁺ MHC class II⁺ B220⁺ PDCA1⁺ plasmacytoid dendritic cells (pDCs). Further differentiation in Flt3L demonstrated both type 1 and type 2 cDCs.

Removing estradiol and replacing Flt3L with GM-CSF caused Hoxb8-FL cells to differentiate into a mixed population of CD11b⁺ CD11c⁺ MHC class II⁺ B220⁻ dendritic cells and Gr1^{high} CD11c⁻ MHC class II⁻ granulocytes, whereas replacing Flt3L with macrophage-colony stimulating factor (M-CSF) resulted in adherent cells with a CD11b⁺ Gr1⁻ MHC class II⁻ cell surface marker profile. Hoxb8-FL cells were cultured continuously over 6 weeks and their lineage potential tested by clonal assays and limiting dilution assays, and were found to constitute a homogenous population of cells which maintained multilineage potential stably (Redecke *et al*, 2013).

Furthermore, the multi-lineage cells differentiated from the Hoxb8-FL cell line were functionally validated by the Häcker group. Functional analysis of Hoxb8-FL cells showed that CpG-DNA-mediated stimulation caused pDCs to produce interferon alpha (IFN α) and cDCs to produce IL-12 p40. Type 1 and 2 cDCs triggered proliferation of MHC class II and MHC class I-restricted T cells after incubation with soluble ovalbumin antigen. M-CSF-driven Hoxb8-FL-derived macrophages demonstrated phagocytic properties and nitric oxide production upon provocation with lipopolysaccharide and IFN- γ (Redecke *et al*, 2013).

In vivo transplantation of Hoxb8-FL cells into lethally irradiated mice generated three populations of CD11b⁺ cells with variable Gr1 expression, CD11b⁻ CD11c⁻ B220⁺ B lymphocytes and CD3⁺ T lymphocytes in peripheral blood, and also demonstrated myeloid and lymphoid potential *in vivo* in an organ-specific and time-dependent manner. Characterisation of Hoxb8-FL-derived immune cells from spleen and peripheral blood demonstrated that Hoxb8-FL-derived cells *in vivo* corresponded functionally to primary LMPP-derived cells. The LMPP-like phenotype was further confirmed by absent megakaryocyte and erythroid potential after seeding cells in medium which supported development of these cell lines. Loss of immature cells over time suggested that Hoxb8-FL cells do not have self-renewal capacity.

In summary, the Häcker group has developed a remarkably robust and plastic LMPP-like cell line which is conditionally immortalised, recapitulates myeloid and lymphoid phenotype, and is capable of stable integration of mutant gene constructs which can be employed to study leukaemia-associated perturbations of differentiation pathways.

1.1.4 Dendritic cells

Hoxb8-FL cells can differentiate in Flt3L conditions into both conventional and plasmacytoid DCs, however it should be emphasised that the characterisation of DC identity, subtypes and function continues to evolve rapidly. It is therefore useful to summarise current understanding of DCs and DC subsets, DC function, and DC transcriptional signatures, as well as how recent work including scRNA-seq is redefining the classical hierarchy of DC identities.

Dendritic cells can broadly be defined in functional terms as ubiquitous sentinel cells which are capable of sensing early danger signals through a broad array of pattern recognition receptors, and which can bridge the innate and adaptive immune systems by *de novo* processing and presentation of antigen (Guermonprez *et al*, 2002). The classical hierarchical model of haematopoiesis describes MPP commitment to the DC lineage by differentiation into the DC-restricted common DC progenitor (CDP), followed by further DC specification into cDC or pDC subsets (Fogg *et al*, 2006, Onai *et al*, 2007, Onai *et al*, 2010). Type 2 CD4⁺ CD11b⁺ SIRPα⁺ cDCs specialise in phagocytosis and endocytosis of foreign peptides before presenting exogenous antigen via MHC class II pathways to CD4⁺ helper T cells, initiating antigen-specific antibody production by B cells (Pooley *et al*, 2001). By contrast, type 1 CD8⁺ XCR1⁺ cDCs capture endogenous peptide antigen from intracellular cytosolic degradation of proteins and typically present endogenous epitopes on MHC class I molecules to CD8⁺ cytotoxic T cells. In addition, type 1 cDCs are specialised for antigen cross-presentation, permitting the presentation of exogenous antigens (including tumour), which are normally presented on MHC class II molecules, to activate cytotoxic T cells through MHC class I pathways (Belz *et al*, 2005, Hildner *et al*, 2008, Bachem *et al*, 2012). IRF8⁺ B220⁺ BST2⁺ pDCs are also capable of antigen presentation but are specialised for response to viral infection and produce large quantities of interferon-alpha (IFN-α) in response to stimulation via Toll-like receptors 7 and 9 (Reizis *et al*, 2011).

TF networks participate in differentiation programs associated with DC cell fate decisions. For instance, the ID2/E2-2 axis regulates differentiation towards pDCs and cDCs (Swiecki *et al*, 2015). In addition, TFs play significant roles in DC function, such as RUNX2-mediated egress of pDCs from the bone marrow (Sawai *et al*, 2013, Chopin *et al*, 2016). Type 1 cDCs are regulated by Gata2, PU.1, Gfi1, Irf8 and Batf3 (Onodera *et al*, 2016, Carotta *et al*, 2010, Rathinam *et al*, 2005, Grajales-Reyes *et al*, 2015), whereas type 2 cDCs are regulated by IRF4, NOTCH2 and

KLF4 (Murphy *et al*, 2016, Williams *et al*, 2016). Key roles in DC lineage specification are played by PU.1, Irf8 and C/EBP α . Elevated PU.1 levels cause higher order chromatin remodelling to bring a -50 kb *IRF8* enhancer into close contact with the *IRF8* promoter, favouring DC lineage commitment (Schonheit *et al*, 2013). Reprogramming of committed T cell progenitors to macrophages and dendritic cells by C/EBP α and PU.1 respectively demonstrates the developmental plasticity of cell identity (Laiosa *et al*, 2006). More recently, Rosa *et al* have used PU.1, Irf8 and Batf3 TFs to reprogramme mouse and human fibroblasts into DCs which can cross-present antigen to T cells (Rosa *et al*, 2018). The Tenen group has demonstrated that C/EBP α is necessary for differentiation from HSPCs to dendritic cell populations both *in vitro* and *in vivo*, and discovered C/EBP α -dependent genes (eg *ELANE*, *CYBB*, *GATA3*) which are required for early DC differentiation (Welner *et al*, 2013).

The Immunological Genome (ImmGen) consortium has employed large data sets to decipher transcriptional programs of DC lineage specification in mouse cells. Affymetrix microarray expression profiles of cells in the ImmGen database have identified Ikaros and Flt3 as essential TFs for the differentiation of pDCs and cDCs, as well as TFs which regulate DC diversification into type 1 cDCs (BATF3, IRF8), type 2 cDCs (IRF4, NOTCH2) and pDCs (E2-2, SPI-B, IRF8) (Miller *et al*, 2012). In addition, the same study has established a core cDC signature of 24 genes which are differentially expressed in cDCs compared to macrophages, as well as unique gene signatures associated with pDCs and cDCs. Furthermore, Miriam Merad and colleagues from ImmGen found that most of the TF genes which increased expression during commitment of macrophage-dendritic cell progenitors (MDPs) to CDPs but not to monocytes, also encoded TFs such as RUNX2 and KLF8 which are known to control pDC lineage specification, suggesting that CDP differentiation into pDCs constitutes a 'default' pathway (Miller *et al*, 2012). The ImmGen gene expression dataset has also been used to derive gene expression modules for DC subsets (Pandey *et al*, 2013).

By contrast with the ImmGen consortium approach, Lin *et al* obtained MPPs, CDPs, cDCs and pDCs by FACS sorting mouse bone marrow cells, and then analysed gene expression and PU.1 binding/histone modification at distinct stages of DC differentiation. This approach revealed that stage-specific changes in gene expression for key DC regulators such as IRF8 and TCF4 are associated with histone modifications in promoter and enhancer regions (Lin *et al*, 2015).

Recent work has challenged traditional hierarchical DC identities. Lee *et al* analysed the quantitative potency of 2,247 HSC and MPP clones derived from CD34⁺ human cord blood cells, and found no evidence of significant populations correlating with MDPs or CDPs, but rather found lineage priming of DCs marked by *IRF8* expression during early haematopoiesis (Lee *et al*, 2017). The Tamura group have recently employed *IRF8* knock-in and knock-out mice to identify epigenetically-primed DC lineage bias in IRF8⁺ LMPP cells mediated by altered chromatin accessibility (Kurotaki *et al*, 2019). Of particular interest, FACS sorting of DCs and monocytes from peripheral blood mononuclear cells of healthy donors, followed by single cell RNA-seq of single DCs using the Smart-seq2 protocol, identified a novel Axl⁺ Siglec6⁺ DC subset which was phenotypically and functionally distinct from classical pDCs (Villani *et al*, 2017).

1.2 Malignant haematopoiesis

1.2.1 Pre-leukaemic cell of origin

Leukaemogenesis is a stepwise process which requires sequential mutations and clonal expansion to cause disease. 10% of elderly patients have clonal haematopoiesis of indeterminate potential (CHIP), defined as somatic mutations in the haematopoietic compartment but no evidence of haematological malignancy (Steensma *et al*, 2015). Predictive models have been developed to distinguish cases of age-related clonal haematopoiesis which are more likely to progress to AML, finding that *TP53* mutations are more likely to predict AML than *DNMT3A* or *TET2* mutations in healthy individuals. It has been suggested that a predictive model based on somatic point mutations and variant allele frequencies can predict AML years or even a decade before clinical diagnosis (Abelson *et al*, 2018). In addition, pre-leukaemic mutations which persist in remission are necessary but not sufficient to recapitulate leukaemia, predisposing individuals to relapse (Rothenberg-Thurley *et al*, 2018).

Gene mutations, rearrangements and altered expression profiles are instructive with regard to the stepwise leukaemic evolution of AML. Nerlov and colleagues employed a knock-in mouse model to show that *CEBPA* mutations cause pre-malignant expansion in haematopoietic stem and progenitor cell (HSPC) compartments prior to the development of overt leukaemia (Kirstetter *et al*, 2008). In familial AML, germline mutations in the N-terminal domain of *CEBPA* can be identified in patients, who subsequently sustain somatic *CEBPA*

mutations in the C-terminal domain as second events (Pabst *et al*, 2008). Furthermore, several groups have shown that patients with *CEBPA*-mutated AML carry the same bi-allelic mutations on relapse (Shih *et al*, 2006, Kirstetter *et al*, 2008), suggesting that *CEBPA* mutations represent an early pre-leukaemic event.

MLL gene rearrangements have been identified in pairs of monozygotic twins, suggesting that pre-leukaemic events can exist *in utero* (Ford *et al*, 1993). Similarly, there is evidence for the prenatal origin of the t(8;21) AML1-ETO translocation (Wiemels *et al*, 2002). In addition, the translocation t(8;21) persists in patients with long-term remission (Miyamoto *et al*, 2000), suggesting that this gene rearrangement is a pre-leukaemic event in the sequential acquisition of mutations.

Besides mutations and gene rearrangements, both *GATA1* knockdown (Shimizu *et al*, 2004) and reduced PU.1 expression (Rosenbauer *et al*, 2004) have generated pre-leukaemic phenotypes in mouse models. Similarly, epigenetic modifications such as hypermethylation play a role in pre-leukaemic changes such as HSC expansion, as evidenced by experimental data from *DNMT3A*, *TET2* and *IDH1* mutation models (Challen *et al*, 2011, Moran-Crusio *et al*, 2011, Sasaki *et al*, 2012).

1.2.2 Leukaemia initiating cells

John Dick and colleagues transplanted lineage-negative CD34⁺ CD38⁻ AML cells into non-obese diabetic mice with severe combined immunodeficiency disease (NOD/SCID mice) and found that they homed to the bone marrow and proliferated with a leukaemic cell morphology similar to that seen in patients (Lapidot *et al*, 1994). Bonnet and Dick then established a hierarchical model of cancer, where the SCID leukaemia-initiating cells (LIC) in all sub-types of AML were CD34⁺ CD38⁻, suggesting that the leukaemic clone originated in normal primitive cells rather than in committed progenitor cells (Bonnet *et al*, 1997).

The emergence of more immunodeficient mouse strains, including NOD SCID Gamma (NSG) mice which lack natural killer (NK) cells, permitted further characterisation of LICs. Taussig *et al* showed that CD34⁺ CD38⁻ progenitors sorted from patients with *NPM*-mutated AML were able to recapitulate a leukaemic phenotype in an IVIG-treated NOD/SCID/IL2 γ ^{-/-} mouse model (Taussig *et al*, 2010). Gradually a body of work has established that LICs are

heterogeneous, for instance the Weissman group retrovirally transduced sorted HSC, CMP and GMP populations with MSCV/MLL-ENL-IRES-GFP and transplanted them into irradiated mice, showing that myeloid progenitors as well as HSCs were capable of generating a leukaemic phenotype (Cozzio *et al*, 2003). Krivtsov *et al* found that introduction of the MLL-AF9 fusion gene into GMPs resulted in LICs with a global gene expression profile and immunophenotype very similar to normal GMPs but with a leukaemia self-renewal signature (Krivtsov *et al*, 2006). Similarly, GMPs were identified as candidate LICs in blast-phase chronic myeloid leukaemia (CML) (Jamieson *et al*, 2004).

More recently, Paresh Vyas and colleagues have shown that ~80% of leukaemic stem cells from CD34⁺ AML demonstrate the immunophenotype and gene expression profile of LMPP-like or GMP-like progenitors, rather than of HSCs, suggesting that most leukaemic stem cells in primary CD34⁺ AML are progenitor cells which acquire aberrant self-renewal capacity (Goardon *et al*, 2011). We therefore hypothesise that LMPP-like Hoxb8-FL progenitor cells provide a stable and reproducible cellular model that can be used to study gene expression changes implicated in leukaemia initiation.

1.2.3 AML as a clinical entity

Acute myeloid leukaemia (AML) is the most common adult leukaemia with an incidence of 15 per 100,000 at age 75 and a median age at diagnosis of 67 years (Roug *et al*, 2014). Our understanding of leukaemia has evolved significantly since Alfred Donné's speculation in 1844 that the "mucous globules" he observed microscopically in a patient with splenomegaly were due to differentiation arrest of white blood cells (Kampen, 2012). Since those early descriptions, apart from progress in clinical and morphological diagnosis, major advances have unfolded from the 1970s onwards in diagnostics, prognostics, and therapeutic options. Today we understand that AML results from the stepwise acquisition of somatic mutations (Figure 1.1) which lead to dysregulation of cell cycle control, limitless replicative potential, genomic instability, altered micro-environment, and ultimately the clonal expansion of immature myeloid cells in differentiation arrest.

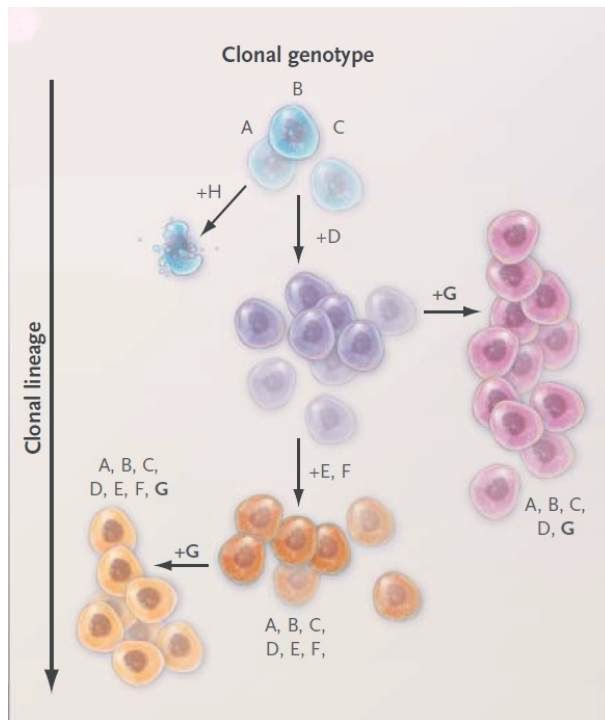


Figure 1.1 Clonal relationships (adapted from Aparicio *et al*, 2013)

AML represents a haematological emergency and morphology can provide an immediate diagnosis in the acute clinical setting, with the World Health Organization (WHO) definition in most cases requiring 20% myeloid blast cells in peripheral blood or bone marrow (Vardiman *et al*, 2002). Initial classification of AML continues to employ the French-American-British (FAB) morphological criteria established in 1976 (Bennett *et al*, 1976). The identification and quantification of myeloid blasts is now commonly confirmed by flow cytometry to identify human AML-associated immunophenotypes including CD13, CD33 and CD117 (Bene *et al*, 1995). Cytogenetic abnormalities such as *inv*(16) and *t*(15;17) provide a diagnosis of AML even in the absence of 20% myeloid blasts on morphological examination.

More recently, molecular mutations have been assimilated into diagnostic criteria for AML (Roug *et al*, 2014), with *NPM1* and *CEBPA* mutations designated as AML entities in the 2008 WHO classification and the addition of *RUNX1* mutations in its 2016 revision (Vardiman *et al*, 2009, Arber *et al*, 2016). In addition, whole genome sequencing (WGS) of patients with AML has uncovered mutations affecting epigenetic machinery, including *DNMT3A* (Ley *et al*, 2010) and *IDH1* (Mardis *et al*, 2009). WGS of 200 patients with AML identified approximately 23 driver mutations (Cancer Genome Atlas Research Network, 2013), a relatively low number

which suggested that AML may comprise a simpler mutational model than solid tumours (Tenen, 2003). More recently, Peter Campbell and colleagues described 5234 driver mutations across 76 genes or genomic regions, with two or more driver mutations identified in 86% of patients with AML (Papaemmanuil *et al*, 2016). The challenge of the post-genomic age is to elucidate elegantly how these gene perturbations interact with each other within transcriptional networks to generate leukaemic phenotypes.

Prognostic information guides clinicians in risk-adapted therapeutic decisions after induction of remission, with poor-risk patients who are fit for aggressive therapy proceeding to stem cell transplantation. By contrast, favourable-risk patients normally proceed to consolidation chemotherapy after successful first remission. Cytogenetics remains the most important disease-specific risk factor for AML, and poor-risk karyotypes include t(9;22), monosomy 5 and complex karyotype (Grimwade *et al*, 1998). However, approximately 60% of patients have intermediate risk cytogenetics, and in this cohort of patients molecular mutations provide important prognostic information: *NPM1* and *CEBPA* with double mutation (*CEBPA^{dm}*) carry favourable prognosis, whereas *FLT3-ITD* carries poor prognosis (Papaemmanuil *et al*, 2016). Wakita *et al* have described the concept of Complex Molecular Genetic Abnormalities (CMGAs) in AML (Wakita *et al*, 2016), arguing that the poor prognosis of *FLT3-ITD* is not an intrinsic effect of the mutation itself but rather is because *FLT3-ITD* commonly co-exists in CMGAs with multiple concurrent mutations, whereas the converse is true of *CEBPA^{dm}* mutations.

Therapeutics pose a significant challenge in the management of AML. Initial induction of remission continues to be by a combination of antimetabolite and anthracycline chemotherapy which was first proven to have efficacy in 1973 (Yates *et al*, 1973). Relapse remains a significant clinical problem with current therapies, due either to the founding clone expanding through therapy or else the development of additional mutations in the founding clone (Ding *et al*, 2012). Unfortunately, progress in diagnostics and prognostication has not been matched by the emergence of effective targeted molecular therapies for AML. In this regard, WGS has uncovered the significant driver mutations which initiate AML, but fails to address the complex transcriptional dysregulation by which initial mutational simplicity brings about a highly heterogeneous and complex phenotype. In consequence, overall survival for

patients with AML at 5 years remains low for younger patients and dismal for patients over the age of 60 who constitute the majority of patients with AML (Dickson *et al*, 2016).

Molecular therapies such as the FLT3 inhibitor Quizartinib are currently undergoing development in phase III clinical trials (Cortes *et al*, 2019). Pharmacological inhibition of transcription has traditionally been problematic, but the emergence of therapies such as BET inhibitors (Zuber *et al*, 2011) suggests that transcriptional dissection can lead to novel therapeutics as well as an increased understanding of the pathogenesis of AML. The effectiveness of immunotherapy in leukaemia has thus far been limited. Allogeneic stem cell transplants provide evidence that T lymphocytes can eradicate leukaemic cells, and donor lymphocyte transfusions were able to treat relapsed CML before the development of tyrosine kinase inhibitors (Kolb, 1998). More recently CAR T-cell therapy has been licenced for use in refractory B-ALL (Rose, 2017), comprising an antibody-like domain targeting a specific antigen such as CD19, a transmembrane domain, and an intracellular signalling domain which activates T-cells. Early excitement around DC vaccination was generated by the finding that a single injection of antigen-pulsed DCs in healthy subjects was able to induce a T-cell response (Dhodapkar *et al*, 1999), and myeloid malignancies were seen as a prime target (Schurch *et al*, 2013, Tesfatsion *et al*, 2014, Pyzer *et al*, 2014). Broadly speaking, DC vaccine therapy comprises of isolating autologous or allogeneic DCs, incubating with peptides or tumour cells to load MHC molecules on the surface of the DCs with antigen, and then delivering DCs to the lymph nodes to engage a T cell response. Clinical trials of DC therapy in the setting of AML have mostly focused on adjuvant therapy post-allogeneic transplant (Wang *et al*, 2018), on treatment of refractory/relapsed AML where conventional therapy has failed (Li *et al*, 2006), or on delaying relapse for patients in remission (Khoury *et al*, 2017). Overall, these studies have demonstrated limited clinical response in patients with AML, and work is ongoing to develop DC-based therapies with increased immunostimulatory activity.

1.3 Transcription factor regulation of haematopoiesis

Despite the fact that relatively few recurrently mutated genes have been identified in patients with *de novo* AML (Cancer Genome Atlas Research Network, 2013; Papaemmanuil *et al*, 2016), leukaemic phenotypes are enormously diverse. To some extent, this can be explained by complexity at the level of transcription, caused both by the stochastic nature of transcriptional

burst kinetics (Raser *et al*, 2004, Suter *et al*, 2011) and by malignant perturbation of intricate gene expression networks which regulate cell state stability of haematopoietic stem cells and progenitors during normal haematopoiesis (Schutte *et al*, 2016).

The mechanism for transcriptional regulation derives from the interaction between transcription factors (TFs) and *cis*-regulatory elements on DNA, whereby TFs program cellular phenotypes. Indeed, it has been established that a single TF can reprogram cells, for instance converting fibroblasts to contracting myocytes (Davis *et al*, 1987). However, increasingly, the attention of the scientific community has focused on the transcriptional paradigm as a network of TF combinations which are spacio-temporally interconnected and which often act as TF complexes rather than in isolation (Wilkinson *et al*, 2017). Riddell *et al*, for instance, used six TFs to reprogram mature pro-B cells into HSC-like cells in a mouse model (Riddell *et al*, 2014).

Two distinct, but mutually complementary, approaches have been developed to analyse the topology of Gene Regulatory Networks (GRNs). Firstly, a 'bottom-up' approach typically establishes a single TF-DNA interaction by functional studies, and then either builds outwards from this central hub or else places it as a new node within an existing network paradigm. An example of this process was the Stem cell leukaemia (Scl) node, required for HSC specification, being placed within a highly recursive gene regulatory circuit involving GATA2, FLI1 and the enhancers *SCL* +19 and *FLI1* +12 (Pimanda *et al*, 2007). Secondly, technology such as Chromatin ImmunoPrecipitation with massive parallel DNA Sequencing (ChIP-seq) combined with computational approaches has enabled a 'top-down' approach where genome-wide binding maps suggest novel TF interactions which can then be confirmed by functional studies. This process led, for instance, to the identification of regions mapping to sixteen TF genes as targets of the basic helix-loop-helix TF SCL in Haematopoietic precursor cell-7 (HPC-7) cells, and then functional *in vivo* validation of these putative regulatory elements by inserting them into *lacZ* reporter constructs in a transgenic mouse model (Wilson *et al*, 2009). More recently, a 'top-down' approach has permitted analysis of combinatorial transcriptional control by ten major TFs in blood stem/progenitor cells, including a novel protein-protein interaction between GATA2 and RUNX1 which was functionally validated by demonstrating the non-viability of GATA2/RUNX1 compound heterozygous mice (Wilson *et al*, 2010). Increasingly, next generation technology and computer modelling will take a central role in representing

patterns of behaviour within complex TF networks [Figure 1.2], but these models continue to require functional validation by *in vitro* and *in vivo* experiments.

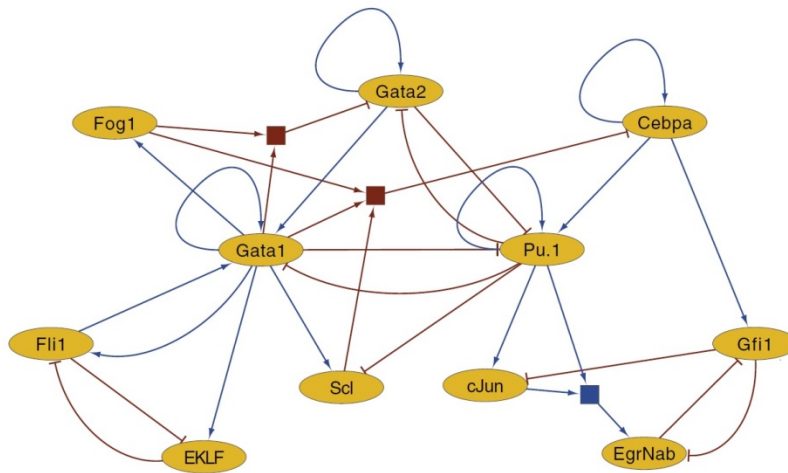


Figure 1.2 Boolean model of core TF networks active in common myeloid progenitors (adapted from Moignard *et al*, 2013)

Perhaps as challenging as the vast possibilities of transcriptional network interactions presented by approximately 25,000 protein-coding genes in the murine or human genome, is the intriguing question of the relatively small number of cell fates which result from these interactions. This can be partially explained by network motifs which control information flow within GRNs and which can be inferred by perturbation studies. Notwithstanding, ChIP-seq clearly describes an extraordinary number of binding interactions between TF and DNA. The observation that binding patterns for a given TF can differ widely with cellular context led to the proposition that the majority of binding events are ‘opportunistic’ and only those patterns which are constant between cellular contexts are ‘functional’ (Wei *et al*, 2011). However, work on transcriptional interactions in two distinct cell types has suggested that cell type-specific binding regions, far from being redundant, demonstrate specific patterns of consensus sequence motifs which may participate in DNA accessibility to shared TFs within a given cellular context (Calero-Nieto *et al*, 2014). The emerging picture is of a complex interplay of TF networks operating at more than one level which permits intrinsic master regulator TFs to give consistent cell fates in an extrinsic cellular context. It has further been observed that ChIP-seq presents an excess of putative target genes when data is analysed for single TFs but that biological functionality is more easily established when statistical analysis is employed to identify binding patterns between DNA and TF complexes (Ottersbach *et al*, 2010). Intuitively, it can be hypothesised that if the vast majority of binding events are not redundant, then TFs

must produce limited cell fates by acting within TF complexes which operate in defined network motifs and which have mechanisms to deal with varied cellular context.

Single cell studies have given additional useful information regarding the interactome. Gottgens and colleagues have demonstrated that TF expression is heterogeneous within LT-HSC, LMPP, MEP, GMP and CLP populations, with expression levels being more constant in specific TFs (for instance, RUNX1) than in others (Moignard *et al*, 2013). This suggests a limited tolerance for variation within TF networks. Furthermore, Index Sorting permits mapping of cells back to their original sort location and retrospective interrogation of heterogeneous flow-sorted populations (Schulte *et al*, 2015). Thirdly, single cell studies can go further than positively correlating the expression of two genes, and can suggest whether two genes share a common regulatory mechanism or whether one gene upregulates expression of the other (Moignard *et al*, 2014). For instance, genes X, Y and Z may be upregulated in a cell population, but single cell analysis may indicate that genes X and Z are upregulated in the same single cells, and gene Y is upregulated in distinct single cells within that population, suggesting that genes X and Z are more likely to have a shared regulatory mechanism than gene Y (Bengtsson *et al*, 2005).

Ideally an increased appreciation for the topology of GRNs will encourage and direct the process of developing targeted therapies. For instance, TF network analysis has established MYC as a central hub in the B cell transcriptome (Basso *et al*, 2005), and potentially a promising target for therapy (Soucek *et al*, 2008). In any case, it is clear that the phenotypic output of a given TF, and the consequences of its mutation, can only be understood in the context of its network interactions with other TFs and with *cis*-regulatory elements on DNA.

1.4 CCAAT/enhancer binding protein (C/EBP) α

1.4.1 C/EBP α overview

C/EBP α is the product of an intronless gene located on chromosome 19q in humans and on chromosome 7 in mice. It functions as a bZIP TF and originally was found to regulate hepatocyte and adipocytes genes in rat liver (Cao *et al*, 1991). Pabst *et al* first identified dominant negative *CEBPA* mutations in human AML (Pabst *et al*, 2001) and intense research followed the finding that C/EBP α plays a key role in both myeloid differentiation and cell cycle

arrest (Timchenko *et al*, 1996, Wang *et al*, 2001). Interestingly, although *CEBPA* is described as a tumour suppressor gene (Reckzeh *et al*, 2010), *CEBPA* expression at the GMP stage [Figure 1.3] is required for myeloid lineage commitment and hence for the generation of AML (Ohlsson *et al*, 2016). Furthermore, evidence suggests that C/EBP α may act as a pioneer factor, opening up chromatin and increasing accessibility for other TFs (Ohlsson *et al*, 2016).

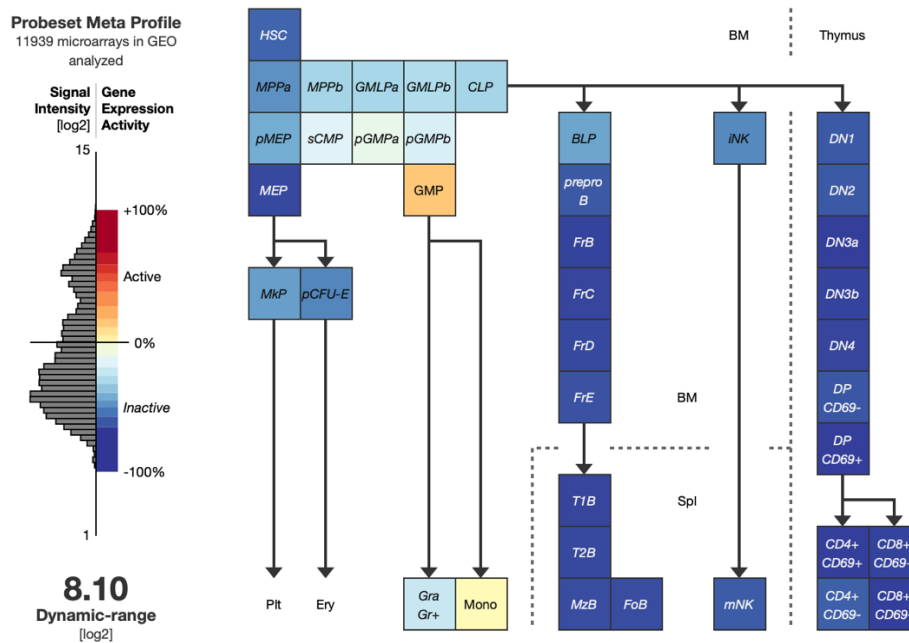


Figure 1.3 Gene expression activity of *CEBPA* in 39 distinct highly purified murine haematopoietic cells, based on varied microarray data as a common reference (from <https://gexc.riken.jp/models/3/genes/Cebpa> ; Seita *et al*, 2012)

1.4.2 C/EBP α structure and function

CEBPA produces a full 42-kDa C/EBP α isoform (henceforth referred to as p42) which contains two transactivation domains (TADs) to activate transcription at the N-terminus, as well as basic region (BR) and leucine zipper (LZ) domains, for DNA-binding and dimerisation respectively, at the C-terminus [Figure 1.4]. p42 is the primary physiological isoform, but a distinct 30-kDa isoform (p30) can also be translated from an alternative ATG start codon within *CEBPA*. p30 has intact BR-LZ DNA-binding function, but reduced transactivation properties. Specifically, p30 omits the first 117 amino acids of p42, and therefore lacks TAD1 which in p42 interacts with the TATA-Binding Protein and hence with the RNA polymerase II transcription holocomplex. In addition, p30 does not exert cell cycle control (Ohlsson *et al*,

2016) and p30 heterodimers have reduced DNA binding *vis-à-vis* p42 homodimers (Cleaves *et al*, 2004).

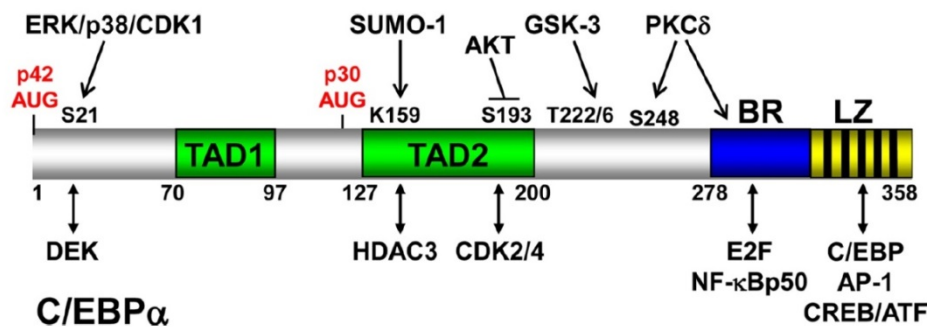


Figure 1.4 Structure of C/EBPα showing transactivation domains, basic region, leucine zipper, initiating AUG residues, protein modifications and protein interactions (from Friedman, 2015)

Dimerisation is an intrinsic feature of the C-terminal basic zipper (bZIP) structural motif found in C/EBPα. Hydrophobic leucine residues in an α-helical structure interdigitate with parallel residues in a partner protein at their respective LZ domains, and the two dimerised proteins then bifurcate at their BR domains to bind the major groove of DNA. The standard model for C/EBPα is the p42 homodimer, but functional diversity is provided by an alternative p30 homodimer and by heterodimerisation with other LZ transcription factors including IRF8 (Kurotaki *et al*, 2014) and AP-1 (Cai *et al*, 2008). Co-immunoprecipitation studies suggest that C/EBPα favours homodimerisation or heterodimerisation with C/EBPβ over JUN or FOS TFs (Cai *et al*, 2008). Noncovalent interactions push a protein towards homodimerisation or heterodimerisation, and a single amino acid variation in LZ structures can select for a particular dimerisation profile (Pogenberg *et al*, 2014). Each configuration binds specific DNA sequence motifs and hence generates a distinct expression profile.

The first major function of C/EBPα is to instruct cell fate within transcriptional regulatory circuits. For instance, both a conditional knock-out mouse model of *CEBPA* (Hasemann *et al*, 2014) and deletion of the +37 kb *CEBPA* enhancer (Avellino *et al*, 2016, Guo *et al*, 2016) resulted in loss of LT-HSCs. C/EBPα plays a critical role in the differentiation pathway from Common Myeloid Progenitors (CMPs) to Granulocyte-Monocyte Progenitors (GMPs) (Nimmo *et al*, 2015). Correspondingly, *CEBPA* ^{-/-} mice are deficient in granulocytes and monocytes (Zhang *et al*, 1997, Heath *et al*, 2004). The role of C/EBPα in myeloid gene expression programs

is evidenced by C/EBP α -mediated reprogramming of fibroblasts into myeloid progenitors (Feng *et al*, 2008). The Tenen group have shown that DC progenitor cell fate is also C/EBP α -dependent in a knock-out mouse model (Welner *et al*, 2013).

The second major function is cell cycle control. CEBPs as a TF family act as tumour suppressors in a wide range of malignancies, including AML, lung cancer, skin cancer, hepatocellular carcinoma and breast cancer (Nerlov, 2007). C/EBP α represses the E2F cell cycle regulatory complex, thereby controlling cellular proliferation but also inducing terminal differentiation (Porse *et al*, 2001). C/EBP α may also inhibit the cell cycle by interfering with Cyclin Dependent Kinases CDK2 and CDK4 (Wang *et al*, 2001), although deletion of the CDK2/CDK4 binding domains of *CEBPA* in mice did not alter cell proliferation (Nerlov, 2004).

1.4.3 *CEBPA* mutations

AML has been characterised as a collaboration of class I ‘signalling mutations’ which activate signal transduction pathways and confer a proliferative advantage on haematopoietic cells, with class II mutations which affect transcription or nuclear function and impair differentiation (Gilliland, 2002). *CEBPA* class II mutations are classified as N-terminal or C-terminal mutations, and each have general properties which can be related to biological structures coded by the *CEBPA* gene [Figure 1.5].

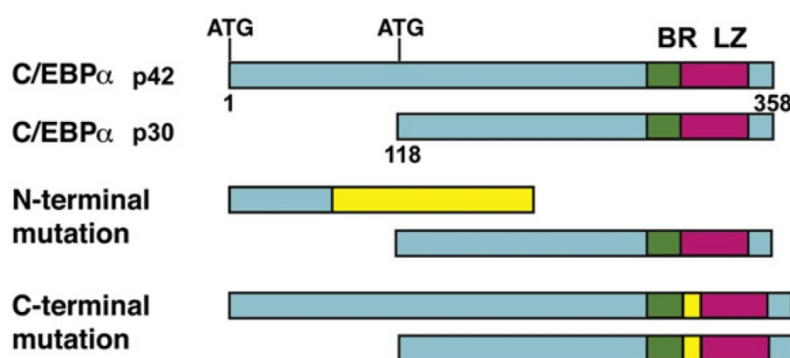


Figure 1.5 Schematic representation of C/EBP α isoforms occurring naturally and as a result of AML-associated mutations (from Bereshchenko *et al*, 2009). N-terminal mutations are frame-shift mutations that block the translation of the 42 kDa isoform (p42) while allowing the 30 kDa isoform (p30) to be expressed. C-terminal mutations generate in-frame insertions/deletions within the basic region-leucine zipper DNA binding domain.

N-terminal frame-shift mutations preserve p30 but prematurely truncate the p42 isoform. Increased p30 expression then inhibits wildtype p42 in a dominant negative fashion (Pabst *et al*, 2001). The overall effect is reduced transactivation function. In fact, most N-terminal mutations lie downstream of the ATG which initiates synthesis of p42 and therefore lead to expression of p30. In addition, bi-allelic mutations preferentially form p30 homodimers (Ohlsson *et al*, 2016), and therefore p30 is the most common isoform to result from mutated *CEBPA*. To investigate the phenotypic effects of p30 dominance, specific ablation of p42 translation was carried out in a Cre-Lox knock-in mouse model. This resulted in AML with death between 9 and 14 months (Kirstetter *et al*, 2008). Interestingly, GMPs were seen in this disease model, indicating that p30 alone is sufficient for the CMP to GMP transition.

C-terminal in-frame mutations have varied effects on transactivation, but are characterised primarily by altered DNA-binding by the bZIP region of C/EBP α . The C-terminal N321D mutation is located at the 321st codon which lies within the leucine zipper (LZ) domain. LZs are characterised by hydrophobic leucine residues at every *d* position in a *(abcdefg)_n* amino acid repeat, and they are configured in an α -helical structure which interdigitates with parallel residues from a partner protein at their respective LZ domains. Asparagine residues can specify dimer formation (Zeng *et al*, 1997), and in addition dimerisation profiles are particularly affected by amino acids at positions *a*, *e* and *g* in the LZ heptad repeat (Schuermann *et al*, 1991). *CEBPA* N321D causes asparagine to be replaced by aspartate at position *a* in the heptad repeat, and therefore it would be reasonable to hypothesise that this causes LZ reconfiguration and altered DNA-binding with associated transcriptional effects.

In a seminal study by Bereshchenko *et al*, after generating knock-in 'L' (Lp30) and 'K' (K313 duplication) alleles to achieve competitive transplantation of fetal hepatic cells with both N and C-terminal mutations into lethally irradiated mice [Figure 1.6], homozygous C-terminal mutations were found to skew HSC differentiation towards erythroid lineage, with absence of GMPs (Bereshchenko *et al*, 2009). Nevertheless, LSK cells were increased in comparison to homozygous N-terminal mutations, suggesting that C-terminal mutations expand the HSC pool (Bereshchenko *et al*, 2009). Of note, this same study suggested a syngenic mechanism for bi-allelic N-terminal and C-terminal mutations, comprising the most common *CEBPA* mutation profile in AML: the allele combination causes HSC expansion while retaining myeloid programming.

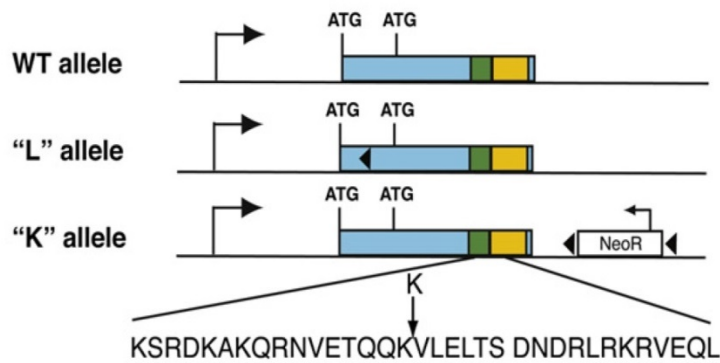


Figure 1.6 Schematic representation of mutant *CEBPA* alleles
Closed triangles, LoxP sites; open box, neomycin Resistance cassette; duplicated lysine residue seen in K313KK C-terminal mutation (from Bereshchenko *et al*, 2009)

In a study by Togami *et al*, 32Dcl3 cells were retrovirally transduced with three different C-terminal *CEBPA* mutations and a mock control, then exposed to IL-3 and six days of granulocyte-colony stimulating factor (G-CSF) treatment (Togami *et al*, 2015). The control cells differentiated into neutrophils but the three mutants remained immature, with the K313 mutation inhibiting differentiation most strongly. Subsequently, sublethally irradiated mice were transplanted with mononuclear cells infected with retroviruses harbouring the same mutations. Transplantation with C-terminal mutated cells resulted in leukaemia in all mice, with the shortest median survival time for the N321D mutation [Figure 1.7].

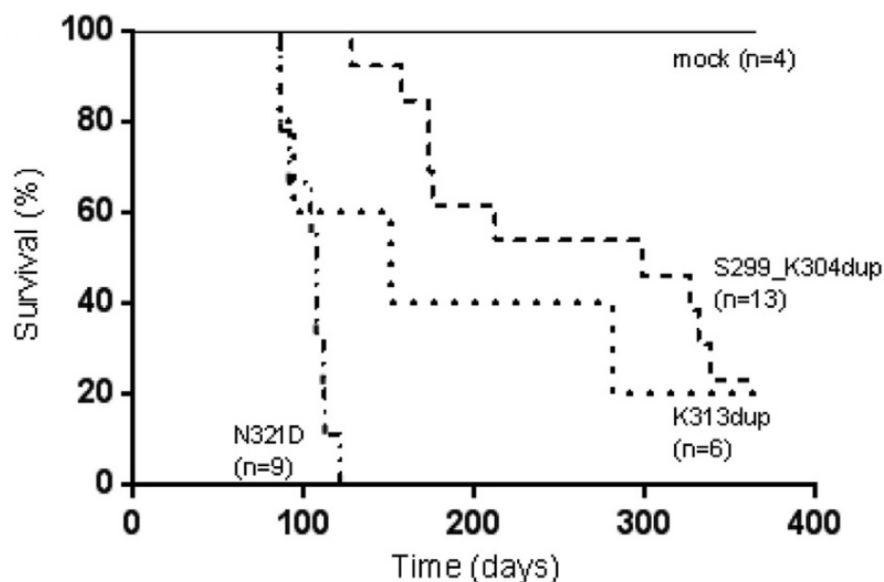


Figure 1.7 Kaplan-Meier analysis for the survival of mice receiving transplants of BM cells transduced with C/EBPα-299_304dup, (299_304dup; n=13), C/EBPα-K313dup (K313dup; n=6), C/EBPα-N321D (N321D; n=9) or pMYs-IG (mock; n=4) (from Togami *et al*, 2015)

The fact that K313 inhibited differentiation most powerfully but the N321D mutation induced a more aggressive leukaemia suggests that C-terminal mutations can cause proliferation as well as inhibit differentiation.

Bereshchenko *et al*'s report that C-terminal mutations in a knock-in mouse model caused expansion of pre-malignant HSCs but required cooperating N-terminal mutations to promote myeloid differentiation into a leukaemic phenotype (Bereshchenko *et al*, 2009) appears to contradict findings by Togami *et al* that retroviral infection of BM mononuclear cells with C-terminal mutations followed by transplantation is able to recapitulate AML *in vivo* without cooperating N-terminal mutations (Togami *et al*, 2015). In another study by Kato *et al*, serial colony assays demonstrated that cells infected with a C-terminal mutation are able to form colonies after 6 rounds of replating and produce a leukaemic phenotype within 4 to 12 months of competitive transplantation into irradiated mice (Kato *et al*, 2011). These divergent results may be reconciled to some extent by hypothesising that the latency of the leukaemic effect found by Kato *et al* suggests additional cooperating mutations. However, the leukaemic phenotype induced by the *CEBPA* N321D C-terminal mutation in work by Togami *et al* had a relatively short latency, and it may be that the divergence in reported results is impacted by different experimental models. Knock-in mouse models express the *CEBPA* mutation via an endogenous promoter, in contrast to retroviral models which transduce exogenous promoters into cells before transplantation. Secondly, knock-in models replace the wildtype (WT) allele with a knock-in mutant allele, rather than integrate a gene mutation into a genome with two WT alleles. Thirdly, semi-random retroviral integration can cause unexpected cellular effects including insertional mutagenesis (Hacein-Bey-Abina *et al*, 2003, Braun *et al*, 2014, Stein *et al*, 2010). However, transplantation models arguably model disease pathology more accurately because only some cells express the mutant whereas knock-in models express the mutation in all haematopoietic cells. In addition, it is also important to remember that *CEBPA* mutant effects can be cell context-specific, for instance a C-terminal mutant has been reported to suppress G-CSF expression and granulocytic differentiation specifically in haematopoietic 32Dcl3 cells and not in 293T cells (Kato *et al*, 2011). Interestingly, the Bonnet group found that intrinsic differences between human and mouse progenitor cells resulted in distinct self-renewal phenotypes on lentiviral transduction of C-terminal mutated *CEBPA* (Quintana-Bustamente *et al*, 2012).

In addition to general characterisation of N- and C-terminal *CEBPA* mutation profiles, two important observations have been made by mouse models. Firstly, *CEBPA*^{-/-} mice lack mature granulocytes but they do not develop AML, suggesting that some degree of *CEBPA* expression is required for the myeloid leukaemic process (Ohlsson *et al*, 2016). Secondly, transplantation of HSC and progenitor cell fractions with *CEBPA* mutations has shown leukaemic engraftment exclusively in committed myeloid cells (Kirstetter *et al*, 2008), suggesting that the leukaemia-initiating cells in *CEBPA*-mutated AML are found downstream of HSCs.

1.4.4 Alternative mechanisms of C/EBPα-mediated AML

Gene silencing through hypermethylation of the *CEBPA* promoter can cause a similar expression profile to *CEBPA* mutations. Interestingly methylation rather than mutation is found commonly in Myelodysplastic Syndromes (MDS) which often presage AML (Wen *et al*, 2015). Post-translational modifications are seen, such as ERK1/2-mediated phosphorylation at serine 21 which changes the conformation of transactivation domains in C/EBPα (Ross *et al*, 2004), thereby altering lineage commitment. Lastly, the interaction between C/EBPα and *CXCR4* is relevant to AML phenotype, with wildtype p42 binding to the *CXCR4* promoter region (Kuo *et al*, 2014). Mutated p30 does not bind to this promoter on ChIP and may downregulate *CXCR4*, increasing AML susceptibility to chemotherapy (Kuo *et al*, 2014).

1.4.5 Combinatorial interactions with other TFs

C/EBPα promotes myeloid transcriptional programs by binding to regulatory elements (promoters or enhancers) for myeloid genes including *KLF5* and *CSF3R* (Federzoni *et al*, 2014), and reintroduction of C/EBPα in leukaemic CD34⁺ stem cells can partially restore myelopoiesis (Schepers *et al*, 2007). It has been noted that *CEBPA* mutations upregulate genes of erythroid differentiation and downregulate genes of myeloid differentiation and homeobox genes (Pabst *et al*, 2009). However, more interestingly for computational analysis, C/EBPα interacts with other TFs in relatively small core circuits which can be hypothesised to participate in larger more complex GRNs (Pimanda *et al*, 2010).

C/EBPα regulates alternative monocyte or neutrophil cell fate in partnership with IRF8. Specifically, IRF8 prevents C/EBPα from binding to its target sequence in monocyte-dendritic cell progenitors, impairing transcription and thereby preventing neutrophil differentiation (Kurotaki *et al*, 2014). Transfection with selected mutations of IRF8 followed by chromatin

immunoprecipitation suggests that IRF8 inhibits C/EBP α activity by interacting with its DNA-binding domain (Kurotaki *et al*, 2014). In line with these results, IRF8^{-/-} mice demonstrate absent monopoiesis and aberrant over-production of neutrophils (Kurotaki *et al*, 2014). By contrast, IRF8 associates with PU.1 to promote monocyte differentiation (Kurotaki *et al*, 2013). In turn, C/EBP α enhances PU.1 expression by directly binding to its promoter and -14 kb enhancer, and represses PU.1 activity by displacing its co-factor JUN (Reddy *et al*, 2002). C/EBP α can dimerise via its LZ domain with AP-1 proteins and thereby interact with alternative DNA elements which promote monocyte differentiation. In fact, C/EBP α heterodimers with JUN induce monocyte lineage commitment more efficiently than C/EBP α or JUN homodimers (Cai *et al*, 2008). In this regard, one mechanism of increased efficiency may be that the C/EBP α :JUN heterodimer binds and activates PU.1 (Cai *et al*, 2008). Thus IRF8, PU.1, JUN and C/EBP α interact in recursive core circuits to promote monocyte or neutrophil lineage specification and/or differentiation.

Other network motifs remain to be elucidated. For instance, *CEBPA*^{dm} AML has high levels of mutant *WT1* and *GATA2* (Fasan *et al*, 2014), suggesting a possible transcriptional circuit. More recently a novel activation pathway mediated by p53 and KLF4 has been identified with deregulation of the p53-KLF4-C/EBP α axis in AML (Seipel *et al*, 2016).

1.4.6 C/EBP α as a pioneer factor

Evidence is building that C/EBP α may have the ability to interact with closed chromatin, remodelling chromatin and enabling access by other TFs at key regulatory elements. Transient pulsed C/EBP α expression prior to co-expression by TFs OCT4, SOX2, KLF4 and MYC enhances reprogramming of B cells into induced pluripotent stem cells, and C/EBP α pulses after expression of these factors is ineffective (Di Stefano *et al*, 2014). Hasemann *et al* found that conditional acute deletion of *CEBPA* results in histone modifications of genes involved in stem cell function (Hasemann *et al*, 2014). More precise evidence of C/EBP α -mediated chromatin accessibility has recently been provided by Thomas Graf and colleagues who found that pulsed *CEBPA* expression in pluripotent cells generates a cluster of *de novo* ATAC peaks on ATAC-seq, which enriches for the *KLF4* motif, and that interplay between C/EBP α and KLF4 induces chromatin accessibility to the Yamanaka pluripotency factors (Di Stefano *et al*, 2016). These studies suggest that C/EBP α may act as a ‘pioneer factor’, opening up chromatin for TFs to access DNA and priming myeloid transcriptional programs (Sardina *et al*, 2016).

1.4.7 Clinical features of *CEBPA*-mutated AML

Incidence and prevalence studies need to be interpreted carefully, as recent evidence suggests that incidence can alter significantly both with age (Libura *et al*, 2015) and with ethnicity (Gou *et al*, 2016). Nevertheless, in general, single and double mutations of *CEBPA* account for approximately 7 to 15% of *de novo* cytogenetically normal AML (Preudhomme *et al*, 2002). Of these, about 30% of cases have single allele *CEBPA* mutations, and 70% have bi-allelic mutations most commonly with a N-terminal mutation in one allele and a C-terminal mutation in the second allele. There is consensus that *CEBPA*^{dm} gives a favourable prognosis in AML (Pabst *et al*, 2009, Wouters *et al*, 2009), recognised in the WHO disease classification (Arber *et al*, 2016). In clinical practice, these patients are therefore more likely to be treated with chemotherapy in the first instance rather than allogeneic stem cell transplantation. By contrast, single-mutated *CEBPA* (*CEBPA*sm) carries no prognostic significance.

1.5 The Single Cell: A New Paradigm

Cell fate decisions are made by single cells, including rare stem and progenitor cells, and therefore require single cell analysis for precise characterisation. In addition, bulk analysis cannot map cancer heterogeneity, which is one of the principal challenges for developing effective targeted cancer treatments. AML provides an ideal conceptual model for deciphering heterogeneity during clonal evolution because it is characterised by relatively few mutations, particularly at pre-leukaemic phase. Interestingly, heterogeneity also underlies the fact that dendritic cells remain poorly characterised and understood despite playing pivotal roles within the immune system.

Single cell RNA-seq isolates individual cells from a bulk population, lyses those cells to acquire RNA, reverse transcribes RNA into cDNA, and then amplifies the cDNA to generate genome-wide sequencing libraries. Due to the reduced quantity of starting material in each individual cell, the major QC challenge of this technique is technical bias, including accuracy and sensitivity. Cost, numbers of cells, and sequencing depth are other questions which need to be considered in experimental design (Baron-Gale *et al*, 2018). A variety of scRNA-seq methods and protocols have developed to meet these challenges, and the comparative strengths and weaknesses of each method (Ziegenhain *et al*, 2017) need to be considered with regard to the hypothesis being tested. For instance, the 10x Chromium system is automated

and therefore is less prone to manual handling bias, it employs unique molecular identifiers (UMIs), and it applies a 3'-tag or 5'-tag sequencing method. By contrast, Smart-seq2 often captures more genes per cell, it uses spike in controls for RNA normalisation, and can capture full-length RNA.

In addition to the range of available scRNA-seq protocols, several combinatorial technologies have emerged to increase the versatility and power of single cell analytical pipelines. For instance, combining scRNA-seq with mass cytometry or Cytometry by Time Of Flight (CyTOF) offers significant advantages over flow cytometry, including the employment of non-fluorescent metal isotopes to conjugate antibodies, which excludes compensation, and the significantly increased number of markers which can be evaluated for each single cell. The Scadden group have recently employed single cell CyTOF to analyse 32 proteins and define 28 subsets of bone marrow stromal cells in homeostatic conditions (Severe *et al*, 2019). Single cell intravital imaging offers new insights into spatial relationships between haematopoietic cells and the microenvironment, showing that leukaemic T-ALL cells are highly motile (Hawkins *et al*, 2016), in contrast with MLL-AF9-driven AML cells where chemoresistance confers an altered migratory phenotype (Duarte *et al*, 2019). By contrast, Long Cai and colleagues have characterised single cells in their spatial environment by computationally integrating data from scRNA-seq and single-molecule fluorescence *in situ* hybridisation (smFISH) (Zhu *et al*, 2018). Integration of scRNA-seq data with ChIP-seq data has been used to infer epigenetic reprogramming and deregulation of TFs in ageing HSCs (Adelman *et al*, 2019), but single cell epigenetic technology has proven more challenging because ChIP-seq is difficult with fewer than 10^3 to 10^4 cells. In this regard, ATAC-seq has emerged as a technology which evaluates chromatin accessibility at the level of the single cell (Buenrostro *et al*, 2015). Finally, CRISPR-seq integrates scRNA-seq with CRISPR-pooled screens to infer causality by gene perturbations at the level of the single cell (Jaitin *et al*, 2016).

Functional characterisation of cells undergoing scRNA-seq remains another important objective to consider during experimental design, and broadly speaking can be achieved by retrospective or prospective methods. The Göttgens group and others have employed flow cytometry to index sort individual cells and facilitate retrospective analysis after lysing cells to acquire RNA (Schulte *et al*, 2015, Macaulay *et al*, 2016, Psaila *et al*, 2016, Knapp *et al*, 2019). Index sorting has proven a powerful partner for scRNA-seq, for instance offering new insights

into the endothelial-to-haematopoietic switch (Baron *et al*, 2018). Secondly, a library of cellular barcodes can be lentivirally integrated into the genomes of single cells to follow them prospectively during differentiation (Naik *et al*, 2013). Lentiviral insertion of barcodes is non-physiological and may alter the biology of single cells, but prospective viral barcoding has introduced fundamental reconfigurations of the haematopoietic tree, such as Naik *et al*'s proposal of DC lineage imprinting during early haematopoiesis (Naik *et al*, 2013).

The evolution of single cell RNA-seq has led to paradigm shifts in our understanding of haematopoiesis. Gene expression analysis of HSC and progenitor populations at the level of individual cells has suggested that lineage-restricted cells emerge directly from a continuum of low-primed undifferentiated HSPCs (Velten *et al*, 2017). This differs conceptually from the hierarchical and stepwise classical model of haematopoiesis, but it remains challenging to reconcile this transcriptome-driven model with the phenotypic observation that populations of blood cells with distinct functional behaviours are readily identifiable with distinct cell surface markers. It can be hypothesised that transcriptional programs characterise intrinsic cell properties, but that discrete phenotypes result from epigenetic modifications or downstream translational processes.

Interestingly, Belluschi *et al* have employed scRNA-seq to identify lymphoid commitment in the 49f⁺ human LT-HSC compartment and observed three distinct transcriptional states, speculating that the continuum of transcriptional states observed in HSCs may reflect a common HSC-wide quiescent profile which disguises underlying discrete transcriptional signatures (Belluschi *et al*, 2018). The classical hierarchical model has now given way to a new paradigm of lineage priming during early haematopoiesis, where phenotypically-defined discrete populations of cells do not represent crossroads of cell fate decision-making, but rather they constitute transient phenotypic meeting points for distinctly-primed cells which are already programmed to travel towards divergent final destinations.

1.6 Thesis aims

The Götting group combines wet lab functional studies of perturbations within transcriptional networks with rigorous bioinformatics analysis of gene expression data. The group has already constructed computer models of myeloid leukaemia based on TF interactions (Sive *et al*, 2016).

C/EBP α is a significant player in normal myelopoiesis and *CEBPA* is commonly mutated in AML. Furthermore, it interacts significantly with other TFs and is not currently characterised in our group's GRN models. N321D is a C-terminal mutation of *CEBPA* identified in human patients with AML (Papaemmanuil *et al*, 2016) and described as highly lethal in mouse models (Togami *et al*, 2015), and therefore may provide an efficient model to evaluate the effects of *CEBPA* mutation on myeloid transcription. Hoxb8-FL cells are a robust LMPP-like cell line which lies upstream of the CMP to GMP junction, and therefore represent a cellular model for studying pre-leukaemic changes induced by mutant *CEBPA*. *CEBPA*-mutated AML has been extensively studied in cellular and mouse models, however there is comparatively poor understanding of how mutant *CEBPA* is involved in early leukaemogenesis. In summary, our model is designed to characterise pre-leukaemic changes caused by mutant *CEBPA*, on the basis that leukaemia-initiating cells are found downstream of HSCs in *CEBPA* mutations (Kirstetter *et al*, 2008), and that the N321D mutation has been shown to recapitulate AML when retrovirally transfected into BM mononuclear cells (Togami *et al*, 2015).

In this context, my thesis has the following aims:

- Establish a cellular model of *CEBPA*-mutated pre-leukaemia using EV and *CEBPA* WT comparators, by transducing Hoxb8-FL cell lines with retroviral gene expression constructs, and culturing them in cytokine conditions designed to recapitulate early haematopoietic differentiation;
- Analyse the gene expression profile of *CEBPA*-mutated pre-leukaemia at the level of the single cell, aiming to characterise rare transcriptional profiles which cannot be visualised by bulk RNA-seq;

- Examine the genome-wide TF binding and histone modification profile of the *CEBPA* N321D mutation, and correlate this with single cell RNA-seq data to identify candidate genes which may play significant roles in pre-leukaemic changes caused by mutant *CEBPA*, including genes which represent putative candidates for novel therapeutics.

2. Materials and Methods

Unless otherwise stated, all experiments were performed by the author of this thesis.

2.1 Molecular biology

2.1.1 Agarose gel electrophoresis

DNA fragments were separated by electrophoresis in 1 to 1.5% agarose gel. Agarose (Sigma) was prepared in 1 x Tris-Borate EDTA (TBE) electrophoresis buffer and Ethidium Bromide (100 ng/ml) was added as intercalating agent. DNA was mixed with gel loading buffer (bromophenol blue, xylene cyanol, and glycerol) and loaded into wells alongside DNA Hyperladder II (Bioline). Electrophoresis was carried out at 80 to 100 volts (Bio-Rad PowerPac) until DNA had migrated a sufficient distance and fragments were cut out under UV transillumination.

2.1.2 DNA gel extraction

DNA was extracted from agarose gel using the QIAquick Gel Extraction Kit (Qiagen) according to manufacturer's instructions and eluted in 30 to 50 µl elution buffer.

2.1.3 DNA PCR purification

PCR fragments were purified using the QIAquick PCR Purification Kit (Qiagen) according to manufacturer's instructions and eluted in 30 to 50 µl elution buffer.

2.1.4 DNA restriction

Restriction enzymes and buffers from New England BioLabs were used for all digestion reactions, according to manufacturer's instructions. Digests were performed for 1 to 4 hours at 37°C.

2.1.5 Dephosphorylation of DNA fragments

Antarctic phosphatase enzyme and buffer (New England BioLabs) were used to remove the 5' phosphate of DNA restriction fragments to prevent self-ligation, as per manufacturer's instructions.

2.1.6 Blunting of single-stranded overhangs in restriction digests

Where required, T4 polymerase (New England BioLabs) was employed to fill in and blunt restriction digest overhangs, as per manufacturer's instructions.

2.1.7 Ligation of DNA fragments

The Promega website <http://www.promega.com/a/apps/biomath> was used to calculate molar ratio of DNA Insert and plasmid vector, and ligation was performed using the T4 DNA ligase enzyme (New England BioLabs) as per manufacturer's instructions at 16°C overnight.

2.1.8 Preparation of electro-competent DH10 β E. Coli

DH10 β *Escherichia coli* was streaked out onto Luria Bertani (LB) agar without antibiotics and incubated at 37°C overnight. One colony was then picked into 5 ml of LB broth without antibiotics and incubated at 37°C overnight with shaking. The 5 ml was then inoculated into 500 ml of LB without antibiotics and incubated again at 37°C with shaking for 2 to 3 hour until Optical Density (OD₆₀₀) reached 0.5. The bacterial culture was then divided into pre-cooled 50 ml falcon tubes, and bacteria was harvested by centrifuging at 3200 x g for 10 minutes at 4°C. The supernatant was discarded and the bacteria were resuspended in ice-cold ultra-pure water and centrifuged twice. Finally, bacteria were resuspended in water, 10% glycerol and 1 mM HEPES pH 8.0, made up into 50 μ l aliquots, snap-frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored at -80°C.

2.1.9 DH10 β E. Coli transformation

50 μ l of Electro-competent DH10 β *E. coli* were first thawed on ice, then 2 μ l of plasmid DNA was added, and the transformation mixture was placed in a 2 mm cuvette before electroporation at 2.5 kilovolts (25 μ F, 250 Ω) on the MicroPulser Electroporator (Bio-Rad). The mixture was then washed with 300 μ l of 2 x Tryptone Yeast extract and incubated at 37°C for 45 minutes on a thermo-shaker. Transformed bacteria were plated on LB agar with kanamycin at 37°C overnight.

2.1.10 Plasmid purification by maxi prep

Single bacterial colonies were inoculated into 100 ml of LB with 100 μ g/ml of ampicillin, then incubated overnight at 37°C and shaking at 200 to 220 rpm. Maxi prep was then performed

using the Plasmid DNA Purification Kit (Macherey-Nagel), as per manufacturer's instructions, and the final DNA pellet was dissolved in 1 x TE buffer or sterile water.

2.1.11 Plasmid purification by mini prep

Alkaline lysis mini prep was performed to isolate small quantities of plasmid DNA. Single colonies of transformed bacteria were inoculated into 2 ml of LB medium with the appropriate antibiotic, and then incubated at 37°C overnight with vigorous shaking. The culture was then transferred to 1.5 ml Eppendorf tubes, centrifuged at 16,000 x g for 60 seconds, before removing the supernatant. The pellet was then processed with S1 Resuspension buffer, S2 Lysis buffer and S3 Quenching buffer from the NucleoBond Xtra Maxi Kit (Macherey-Nagel), before centrifuging the plasmid DNA in the supernatant at 16,000 x g for 10 minutes and then transferring to a fresh tube. 1 volume of isopropanol was added to precipitate nucleic acids from the supernatant, the solution was vortexed and allowed to stand at room temperature for 2 minutes, before centrifuging at 16,000 x g for ten minutes, washing once with 70% ethanol, and leaving the pellet to air dry. Finally the purified DNA was resuspended in 20 µl of ultra-pure water.

2.1.12 DNA sequencing

The Sanger method was used for DNA sequencing, and performed by Source Bioscience.

2.2 Cloning

Cloning was performed by the author of this PhD and S Kinston.

2.2.1 Original *CEBPA* N321D Plasmid construction

The construct containing the *CEBPA* N321D mutation was assembled from synthetic oligonucleotides and provided by GeneArt (Life Technologies) as an insert into a kanamycin-resistant vector with restriction sites for BlnI and BstAPI (pMK-T CEBPalpha N321D).

2.2.2 Original *CEBPA* N321D Plasmid sequencing

Sanger sequencing was carried out by GeneService (Bioscience) and analysed using SerialCloner software to verify the nucleotide sequence of the expression construct. The following primers were used for sequencing:

Table 2.1 Primers for original *CEBPA* N321D plasmid

Forward primer	5' TCAGAAACAACCTTGGCACA 3'
Reverse primer	5' GTTATCCTCCTCGCCCTTGCTC 3'

2.2.3 *CEBPA* wild-type (WT) plasmid

pMK-T CEBPalpha N321D construct was digested with BlnI and BstAPI restriction enzymes to release the 52 bp region containing the *CEBPA* N321D mutation. The -3368 bp fragment containing the vector and most of *CEBPA* was gel extracted using the QIAquick Gel Extraction Kit (Qiagen), as per manufacturer's instructions.

Complementary primers (Table 2.2) were then used to replace the region containing the mutation with the WT version of the gene. The primers were denatured at 100°C for 10 minutes and then left to cool slowly to room temperature in the presence of annealing buffer (10 mM Tris, 50 mM NaCl, 1 mM EDTA) for them to reanneal. The annealed product was then ligated to the gel extracted band using Gibson assembly cloning strategy with 0.2 U of T5 exonuclease (Epicentre, T5E4111K), 12.5 U of Phusion polymerase (NEB, M0530S), 2000 U of Taq Ligase (NEB, M0208S), and 100 µl of 5X Isothermal (ISO) reaction buffer.

Table 2.2 Primers for Gibson assembly of *CEBPA* WT plasmid

Primer	Sequence
CEBPα Repair oligo FW	AGCAGCGCAACGTGGAGACGCAGCAGAAGGTGCTGGAGCTGACCACTGAC AAT GACCGCCTGCGCAAGCGGGTGAACAGCTGAGCCGCGAACTGGACAC GCTGCGGG
CEBPα Repair oligo REV	CCCGCAGCGTGTCCAGTTCGCGGCTCAGCTGTTCCACCCGCTTGCAGGCG GGTC ATT GTCAGTGGTCCAGCACCTTCTGCTGCGTCTCCAGTTGCG CTGCT

Resulting ligations were then transformed and purified by mini prep, and the presence of the wildtype version of the gene was verified by Sanger Sequencing.

2.2.4 Construction of EV, *CEBPA* WT and *CEBPA* N321D retroviral vectors

pMSCV-MLL-ENL-IRES-eGFP retroviral vector was obtained from S Basilico (Göttgens laboratory) and digested with Sal I and Bgl II restriction enzymes. This released MLL-ENL and generated a backbone fragment of 6106 bp that contained pMSCV-IRES-eGFP and was

isolated with the QIAquick Gel Extraction Kit (Qiagen). The ends of this fragment were then blunted and re-ligated to generate the control vector or “Empty Vector” (EV).

The *CEBPA* WT and *CEBPA* N321D insert cDNAs were amplified by PCR using KAPA HiFi Hotstart mix. To this end, we designed a forward oligo that contained the recognition sequence for BamHI followed by the codon of a methionine, in-frame FLAG tag and *CEBPA* (including the methionine codon). The reverse primer contained the sequence of the last coding codon of *CEBPA*. Of note, both primers contained 30 nucleotides of homology with the backbone vector to allow for Gibson assembly cloning strategy, including the region upstream of BamHI site for the forward primer and the IRES region for the reverse primer. The following primers were used:

Table 2.3 PCR primers and conditions to add FLAG tag and Sal I / Bgl II restriction sites to *CEBPA* inserts

Primer	Sequence
SalI_Flg_BmHI_CBP _a	TTCTCTAGGCGCCGGAATTCACGCGTCGACGCCACCATGGACTACAAGGACGA CGATGACAAGATGGAGTCGGCCGACTTCT
CBP _a _SpeI_BGLII_vir	GCGGAATTGGATGCATGGGGTCTTAGATCTTCACGCGCAGTTGCCCATGGC

Stage	Temperature	Time	Cycles
Denaturing	98°C	3 minutes	1
Annealing	98°C	5 seconds	10
	60°C	15 seconds	
	72°C	30 seconds	
Extension	98°C	5 seconds	25
	72°C	60 seconds	
	72°C	5 minutes	
	16°C	Hold	

The *CEBPA* WT and N321D inserts with FLAG tags and restriction sites were then isolated by gel electrophoresis, joined to the pMSCV-IRES-eGFP control vector by Gibson assembly, transformed into electrocompetent DH-10 β cells, and ampicillin-resistant colonies were selected by growth on agar with ampicillin. Plasmid DNA was then isolated by Alkaline Lysis mini prep, and the following primers were used to sequence junctions for the *CEBPA* inserts in the new retroviral vectors and for the IRES sequence in the Empty Vector:

Table 2.4 Primers to sequence ligation junctions in EV, *CEBPA* WT and *CEBPA* N321D retroviral vectors

Primer	Sequence
Cebpa junction Forward primer	CAGACCACCATGCACCT
Cebpa junction Reverse primer	GTCGATGTAGGCGCTGATG
IRES Reverse	AGGAACTGCTTCCTTCACGA

In addition, a number of primers (Table 2.5) were required for Sanger Sequencing along the length of the *CEBPA* WT and *CEBPA* N321D inserts, to ensure that plasmid DNA was composed of the correct and complete nucleotide sequence for the wildtype and mutant inserts.

Table 2.5 Primers for Sanger sequencing along the length of *CEBPA* WT and *CEBPA* N321D inserts

Primer	Sequence	Position
Forward primer	GGCGGCGACTTTGACTAC	344
Forward primer	CAGCAGGAGAAGGCCAAG	322
Forward primer	TACCTGGACGGCAGGCT	475
Reverse primer	CAGGTGCATGGTGGTCTG	683
Reverse primer	GTGCGCGATCTGGAAC	706

The completed vector map is shown in Appendix Figure 1.

2.3 Cell culture

2.3.1 Conditions

Cells were incubated at 37°C in 5% CO₂ and cell culture was performed using standard aseptic technique in a BioMAT2 class II laminar flow cabinet with unidirectional flow of HEPA-filtered air.

2.3.2 B16 cell line

B16 cells were thawed and seeded into 10 cm dishes with 10 ml culture media: RPMI 1640 (Sigma R8758) with 10% foetal bovine serum (FBS), 0.1% 2-mercaptoethanol, 1% Penicillin/Streptomycin and 1% Glutamine. Cells were cultured for 2 to 3 days, then transferred to 175 cm² flasks and incubated until confluent. Flt3L conditional media was harvested from the supernatant by pooling supernatant, centrifuging and passing through a 0.2 µM filter, before freezing at -20°C.

2.3.3 293T cell line

293T cells (Graham *et al*, 1977) were cultured in Dulbecco's Modified Eagle's Medium DMEM (Sigma Aldrich D6429), 10% FBS and 1% Penicillin/Streptomycin. These cells were adherent and grown in a monolayer in 10 cm cell culture dishes. They were subcultured and dissociated with Trypsin EDTA (Sigma T3924) in log phase every 2 to 3 days to maintain 30% to 90% confluence.

2.3.4 Hoxb8-FL cell line

The murine cell line Hoxb8-FL (Redecke *et al*, 2013) was kindly donated by Hans Häcker as mouse bone marrow cells infected with ERHBD-Hoxb8 virus. Cells were cultured in RPMI 1640 medium (Sigma R8758) supplemented with 10% Hyclone FBS, 5% Flt3L conditioned media, 1% Penicillin/Streptomycin, 2 mM L-glutamine, 50 mM 2-mercapto-ethanol, and 1 μ M β -estradiol (henceforth termed 'Hoxb8 media F+e+').

Cells in full media had lymphoblast-like spherical cell morphology, were non-adherent and could be grown in suspension within sterile tissue culture treated flasks with gas-permeable caps. Cells were subcultured in fresh medium every 2 to 3 days to maintain a concentration of 0.3 to 1.2 x 10⁶ cells/ml.

2.3.5 Parental EV, *CEBPA* WT and *CEBPA* N321D cell lines

The Hoxb8-FL cell line was infected with one of the following three retroviral plasmids to generate three cell lines: (i) pMSCV-IRES-eGFP which carries no human transgene, (ii) pMSCV-CEBPAWT-IRES-eGFP, and (iii) pMSCV-CEBPAN321D-IRES-eGFP. For experiments requiring transduced cells only, transduction was followed by cell sorting (Flow Facility, CIMR, Cambridge) to select DAPI negative and GFP⁺ cells only.

2.4 Cell biology

Retroviral transduction, differentiation and flow cytometry were performed by the author of this PhD. Cell sorting was performed by the CIMR Flow team and Smart-seq2 protocol was performed by I Kucinski. ChIP-seq was performed by the author of this study and F Calero-Nieto.

2.4.1 Retrovirus production by transfection of 293T cells

2×10^6 293T cells were plated in a 10 cm dish at 16 to 20 hours before transfection, aiming for 70% to 80% confluence at time of transfection. 5 μ g of plasmid DNA and 5 μ g of Psi packaging vector (obtained from the Huntly group) was made up to 10 μ l with H₂O and added to 500 μ l of plain DMEM, before adding drop-wise to 30 μ l of TransIT-LT1 Transfection Reagent (Mirus MIR2300). This was incubated at room temperature for 30 minutes, before distributing drop-wise and evenly over 10 cm dishes containing 293T cells. The transfection mixture was incubated for 24 hours at 37°C in 5% CO₂ and culture medium was then replaced with fresh medium (5 ml RPMI, 10% Hyclone FBS, 1% Penicillin/Streptomycin, 1% glutamine). Retroviral supernatant was recovered after a further 24 hours of culture and passed through a 0.45 μ m filter to remove cellular debris, fresh medium was added to the 293T cells and supernatant was recovered again after a further 24 hours.

2.4.2 Retroviral transduction of Hoxb8-FL cells

In each well of a 6-well plate, 1.5×10^6 Hoxb8-FL parental cells were placed in 2 ml Hoxb8 media F++ and 24 μ l polybrene (Sigma) was added to a final concentration of 8 μ g/ml, before adding 1 ml of retroviral supernatant. The 6-well plate was then centrifuged at 779 x g for 90 minutes at 32°C, then incubated for 90 minutes at 37°C in 5% CO₂. 1.5 ml of media was removed carefully to avoid disturbing transduced cells lying at the bottom of the wells, and replaced with 2.5 ml of fresh Hoxb8 media F++ before incubating overnight at 37°C in 5% CO₂. 2 ml of Hoxb8 media F++ was added at 24 hours post-transduction, and cells were assessed for GFP expression at 48 hours post-transduction.

2.4.3 Differentiation assays

EV, *CEBPA* WT or *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells were cultured for 7 days in Hoxb8 media F+e+, then washed twice in PBS, and resuspended at a concentration of 0.1×10^6 cells/ml in differentiation medium.

Differentiation medium was prepared by adding appropriate growth factors to RPMI 1640 medium (Sigma R8758) supplemented with 10% Hyclone FBS, 1% Penicillin/Streptomycin, 2 mM L-glutamine, and 50 mM 2-mercapto-ethanol. The growth factors consisted of either 5% Flt3L conditional medium, 7 ng/ml murine granulocyte-macrophage colony stimulating factor (GM-CSF) (PeproTech), 10 ng/ml murine macrophage colony stimulating factor (M-CSF) (PeproTech), or 10 ng/ml murine IL-3 (PeproTech). Cells were cultured in 6-well plates at 37°C in 5% CO₂. Differentiated cells were adherent and therefore dissociated enzymatically with trypsin-EDTA (Sigma T3924) prior to further processing.

2.4.4 Cytospin and Romanowsky staining

Cytospin was performed by loading Cytospin funnels with 50 µl to 100 µl of cells in liquid culture and centrifuging for 2 minutes at 700 rpm on the Shandon Cytospin3, depositing monolayers of cells on Cytoslides. Cells were stained by using a Rapid Romanowsky Stain Pack as per protocol (TCS Biosciences, HS705). Microscopic photographs were taken using Zen Pro software on Axio Imager.Z2 (Zeiss).

2.4.5 Murine haematopoietic progenitor cell staining

Cell staining was performed by using either a Basic Panel (Table 2.6) or an Advanced Panel (Table 2.7). Cells were centrifuged at 300 x g and washed in PBS, then centrifuged again and Fc-blocked using purified anti-CD16/32 antibody (BioLegend). In the case of the Advanced Panel, Fc-block was made up in BD Horizon Brilliant Stain Buffer to prevent staining artefacts caused by the presence of multiple BD Horizon Brilliant fluorescent polymer dyes. Fc-block was carried out for 5 minutes at room temperature, and cells were then conjugated with fluorophore-labelled antibodies in FACS buffer (PBS with 2% Hyclone FBS) for 30 minutes at 4°C.

Cells were washed twice with FACS buffer and then resuspended in 500 µl of FACS buffer with 1 µg/ml of 4',6-diamidino-2-phenylindole (DAPI) or 1:400 of 7-Aminoactinomycin D (7-AAD)

viability dyes for the Basic and Advanced Panels respectively. OneComp compensation beads (Thermo Fisher) were processed alongside cells for use as compensation controls.

Flow cytometry analysis was carried out on the BD LSRFortessa Cell Analyzer (BD Biosciences), and flow cytometry data was processed using FlowJo software.

Table 2.6 Basic Panel of antibodies used for initial flow cytometry and for FACS of mouse cells

Antibody	Clone	Supplier	Catalogue	Dilution
CD 16/32 (Fc block)	93	Invitrogen	14-0161-85	1:100
c-kit (APC/Cy7)	2B8	BioLegend	105826	1:100
Ly-6G (PB)	1A8	BioLegend	127612	1:100
B220 (APC)	RA3-6B2	BioLegend	103212	1:400
CD11b / MAC-1 (PE)	M1/70	BD Pharmingen	553311	1:200

Table 2.7 Advanced Panel of antibodies used for further flow cytometry of mouse cells

Antibody	Clone	Supplier	Catalogue	Dilution
CD 16/32 (Fc block)	93	Invitrogen	14-0161-85	1:100
c-kit (APC/Cy7)	2B8	BioLegend	105826	1:100
Ly-6g (BV510)	1A8	BioLegend	127633	1:100
B220 (AF 700)	RA3-6B2	BioLegend	103232	1:100
CD11b (BV711)	M1/70	BioLegend	101242	1:200
CD11c (PE/Cy7)	N418	BioLegend	117318	1:100
SIRP α (PE)	P84	BD Biosciences	560107	1:100
XCR1 (APC)	ZET	BioLegend	148206	1:100
BST2 (BV421)	927	BD Horizon	566431	1:100
F4/80 (BUV395)	T45-2342	BD Horizon	565614	1:100
MHC class II (PerCP/Cy5.5)	M5/114.15.2	BioLegend	107626	1:400

2.4.6 Murine haematopoietic progenitor cell sorting

Cell sorting was performed on a BD Influx Cell Sorter using BD FACS Software, and cells were sorted into appropriate culture media. For single cell sorting, eight-peak rainbow beads (Spherotech) were employed for laser alignment and BD Accudrop beads were used for calculating drop delay. Single cells were sorted into six standard 96-well PCR plates containing

lysis buffer (SUPERase-In RNase Inhibitor, 10% Triton X-100, RNase-free H₂O), vortexed for 30 seconds, centrifuged at 700 x g for 60 seconds at 6°C, and then stored at -80°C. Each plate contained thirty-two EV, *CEBPA* WT and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced single cells from a distinct biological replicate at one of two time points.

2.4.7 Single cell RNA sequencing

Single cells were processed by a modified Smart-seq2 protocol. Firstly, the oligo-dT primer was hybridised to the polyA tail of the mRNA molecule by placing 2 µl of the annealing mixture (1 µl free dNTPs (10mM), 0.1 µl tailed oligo-dT oligonucleotides (100 µM), and 0.1 µl ERCCs diluted in 0.8 µl DEPC-treated dH₂O) into each well, centrifuging the plates at 700 x g for 60 seconds, incubating at 72°C for 3 minutes, placing immediately on ice, and then centrifuging again at 700 x g for 60 seconds.

Reverse transcription was then performed by adding 5.7 µl of RT mixture to each well, centrifuging at 700 x g for 60 seconds, and then applying RT thermocycling conditions (Table 2.8). The RT mixture for each well consisted of 0.5 µl Superscript II RT (200 U/µl), RNase inhibitor (20U/µl), 2.0 µl 5x superscript II first strand buffer, 0.5 µl DTT (100 mM), 2 µl Betaine (5M), 0.06 µl MgCl₂ (1M), 0.1 µl TSO (100 µM), and 0.27 µl DEPC-treated dH₂O.

Table 2.8 RT thermocycler conditions

Stage	Temperature	Time	Cycles
RT and template switching	42°C	90 minutes	1
Unfolding of RNA secondary structures	50°C	2 minutes	10
Completion/continuation of RT and template switching	42°C	2 minutes	
Enzyme inactivation	70°C	15 minutes	1
	4°C	Hold	-

Following RT, plates were spun at 700 x g for 60 seconds at 6°C and PCR pre-amplification was carried out by adding 15 µl of PCR mix (12.5 µl of 2x KAPA HiFi Hotstart ReadyMix, 0.25 µl of IS PCR primer (10 µM) and 2.25 µl of nuclease-free dH₂O) to each well and applying thermocycler conditions as described in Table 2.9.

Table 2.9 PCR pre-amplification thermocycler conditions

Stage	Temperature	Time	Cycles
Denaturing	98°C	3 minutes	1
Denaturing	98°C	20 seconds	21
Annealing	67°C	15 seconds	
Extension	72°C	6 minutes	
Extension	72°C	5 minutes	1
	4°C	Hold	-

The PCR products were then purified as follows: Ampure XP beads were equilibrated to room temperature for 15 minutes, vortexed, centrifuged at 700 x g for 60 seconds and added to each sample at a volume ratio of 1.0:0.6 for DNA:beads. The mixture was pipetted until homogenous, and transferred to a 96-well plate, then incubated for 8 minutes at room temperature to allow the DNA to bind to the beads. The plates were then placed on a compatible magnetic stand for 5 minutes so that the beads separated from the supernatant, and the liquid carefully removed without disturbing the beads. The beads were then washed twice with 200 µl of freshly made 80% ethanol. The beads were then dried completely, the plates were removed from the magnet stand, and the beads were resuspended in 23 µl of elution buffer before incubating for 2 minutes. The plates were then put back on the magnet for 2 minutes to separate the beads from the solution of eluted PCR products, and 20 µl of the solution was carefully collected without disturbing the beads.

Quality check of the cDNA library was performed by checking size distribution on an Agilent high-sensitivity DNA chip. Quantification was performed using the Scientific Quant-iT™ PicoGreen® dsDNA Assay Kit.

Library preparation and tagmentation was performed using the Illumina Nextera XT DNA sample preparation kit as per manufacturer's protocol. Samples were diluted to between 0.1 and 0.15 ng/µl cDNA per single cell, 1.25 µl of amplified cDNA was transferred to a new plate, tagmentation mix (2.5 µl Tagmentation DNA buffer, 1.25 µl Amplicon Tagment Mix) was added to each well, plates were centrifuged at 700 x g for 60 seconds, tagmentation reaction was carried out at 55°C for 10 minutes, 1.25 µl of NT buffer was added to each sample to neutralise the tagmentation reaction, and plates were centrifuged again at 700 x g for 60 seconds. Finally, preparation of the sequencing library was completed by adding 3.75 µl of Nextera PCR Master Mix, 1.25 µl of Index Primer 1 (N701-N712) to the corresponding well of

each row of the plate, 1.25 µl of Index Primer 2 (S501-S508) to the corresponding well of each column of the plate, sealing the plate, centrifuging at 700 x g for 60 seconds, and then performing PCR amplification as described in Table 2.10:

Table 2.10 PCR amplification thermocycler conditions

Step	Temperature	Time	Cycles
1	72°C	3 minutes	1
2	95°C	30 seconds	
3	95°C	10 seconds	21
	55°C	30 seconds	
	72°C	60 seconds	
4	72°C	5 minutes	1
5	10°C	Hold	-

Libraries were then pooled from each sample, the total pooled volume was measured, and Ampure XP beads were added firstly in 1.0:0.5 volume ratio, and then in 1.0:0.2 volume ratio for DNA:beads. This double clean-up was designed to remove fragments larger than 600 bp and fragments smaller than 400 bp respectively. The DNA:bead mixture was incubated at room temperature for 5 minutes, placed on a magnetic stand for 2 minutes, and supernatant was removed carefully without disturbing the beads before adding 1ml of freshly prepared 80% ethanol and incubating for 30 seconds on the magnetic stand. Ethanol wash was applied twice, the beads were allowed to dry after each wash, and DNA was then eluted from the beads with elution buffer.

Agilent High-Sensitivity DNA BioAnalyzer chip was employed to check library size distribution between 42 bp and 3561 bp, and the KAPA library quantification kit was used to quantify the pooled library. Libraries were submitted as 10 to 20nM in a volume of at least 15 µl in a 1.5ml Eppendorf. Single cell RNA sequencing was performed by CRUK Cambridge Institute Genomics Core using single-end 50 bp read length, processing 6 plates (576 cells) in 3 lanes on Illumina HiSeq 4000.

2.4.8 ChIP-seq (ChIP, qPCR, library prep and sequencing)

2.4.8.1 Chromatin immunoprecipitation

ChIP nuclei were prepared from EV and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells which were collected both before differentiation in Hoxb8 media F+e+ (EV 40 x 10⁶ cells, *CEBPA* N321D 80 x 10⁶ cells) and after differentiation in Hoxb8 media without estradiol (henceforth 'Hoxb8 media

F+e-') (EV 80 x 10⁶ cells, *CEBPA* N321D 160 x 10⁶ cells) for 5 days. Cells in F+e+ media were free floating in suspension but differentiated cells in Hoxb8 media F+e- were trypsinised for 1 minute at 37°C before quenching with original media. Cells were centrifuged at 335 x g for 5 minutes at room temperature, cross-linked with formaldehyde 1% (Sigma 47608), stirred with gentle agitation for 10 minutes, and then quenched with 2M glycine. Cells were then stirred for 5 minutes at room temperature, and centrifuged at 300 x g for 5 minutes at 4°C.

Cross-linked cells were then lysed with cell lysis buffer (10 mM Tris pH 8.0, 10 mM NaCl and 0.2% NP-40, and protease inhibitors), nuclei recovered by centrifugation at 600 x g for 5 minutes at 4°C, and nuclei lysates were resuspended in nuclei lysis buffer, protease inhibitors and 10 mM NaBu. Chromatin was then fragmented by sonication on Diagenode Bioruptor UCD-200 for five cycles (30 seconds on, 30 seconds off) before diluting chromatin fragments at a 1:5 ratio of nuclei lysis buffer to IP dilution buffer.

Non-specific chromatin-antibody binding was pre-cleared by incubating in 50 µg of rabbit IgG (Sigma I5006) at 4°C for one hour, then incubating with protein G sepharose beads at 4°C for two hours, permitting separation of IgG-beads complexes from the chromatin in solution.

Precipitation of specific antibody-bound chromatin was then performed: Chromatin from the EV cells was divided into anti-C/EBPα antibody (rabbit polyclonal IgG; Santa Cruz sc-61x), anti-H3K27Ac antibody (rabbit polyclonal IgG; Abcam ab4729), IgG antibody control (rabbit serum; Sigma I5006) and Input sample, whereas *CEBPA* N321D chromatin was divided into anti-C/EBPα antibody (rabbit; Santa Cruz sc-61x), anti-H3K27Ac antibody (rabbit; Abcam ab4729), anti-FLAG M2 antibody (mouse monoclonal IgG; Sigma F3165), IgG antibody control (rabbit) and IgG antibody control (mouse serum; Sigma I5381) and Input sample. The appropriate antibodies were then added (7 µg antibody for TF/IgG and 5 µg antibody for H3K27Ac) to the chromatin, and the samples were incubated on a roller at 4°C overnight. 60 µl of protein A/G sepharose beads were then added per condition, followed by rotation for 2 hours at 4°C. The sepharose / IgG pellets were centrifuged at 5300 x g for 2 minutes, then washed twice with pre-cooled low salt buffer (20 mM Tris pH 8.1, 2 mM EDTA, 150 mM NaCl, 1% Triton X100, 0.01% SDS), once with Lithium Chloride buffer (10 mM Tris pH 8.1, 1 mM EDTA, 0.25 M LiCl, 1% NP40, 1% sodium deoxycholate monohydrate) and twice with 1 x TE buffer.

The DNA-protein-antibody complexes were then eluted from the beads by adding elution buffer (100 mM NaHCO₃, 1% SDS) twice in succession and combining the two elutions.

Cross-links were reversed by adding 1 µg RNaseA and 0.3 M NaCl to both immunoprecipitated samples and Input samples, before incubating at 67°C overnight. Endogenous nucleases were then removed by application of 60 µg Proteinase K at 45°C for 2 hours, before purifying DNA with the QIAquick PCR Purification Kit (Qiagen) and eluting in 50 µl elution buffer.

To check that sonication had resulted in correct size distribution of DNA fragments (300 to 500 bp), 0.005 µg of Input DNA was loaded onto the Agilent 2100 BioAnalyzer using the Agilent High Sensitivity DNA Kit as per manufacturer's instructions.

2.4.8.2 Real-time quantitative PCR

Quantitative PCR was performed using Brilliant II SyBr Green QPCR Low ROX Master Mix (Agilent, 600830) on a Stratagene Mx3000P instrument. Input EV F+e+ was used for the standard curve, with dilutions in 1 x TE buffer at 2 ng/µl, 0.4 ng/µl, 0.08 ng/µl, 0.008 ng/µl, and H₂O. Enrichment was assessed at two regulatory elements known to be bound by C/EBPα (*SPI1* -14 and *NFE2*) as well as a negative control region on mouse chromosome 1 (Calero-Nieto *et al*, 2010). ChIP products were diluted to 1:4 in 0.1 x TE buffer. Primers (Table 2.11) and thermocycler conditions (Table 2.12) are given below:

Table 2.11 qPCR primers

	PCR forward primer	PCR reverse primer
<i>SPI1</i> -14	GCTGTTGGCGTTTTGCAAT	GGCCGGTGCCTGAGAAA
<i>NFE2</i>	TCACACCAGTAGGCAATCCA	GTGGCTAGAGGTGGAACCAG
Negative control region on Chromosome 1	CATAGATGAAGCTGCCACATAGGT	GTGGGCAAGGACAAAGCATT

Table 2.12 PCR amplification thermocycler conditions

Step	Temperature	Time	Cycles
1	95°C	10 minutes	1
2	95°C	30 seconds	40
	60°C	60 seconds	
	95°C	60 seconds	
3	55°C	30 seconds	1
4	95°C	30 seconds	1
5	4°C	Hold	-

MxPro QPCR software (version 4.10) and Microsoft Excel 2016 were used to analyse data. Fold enrichment levels were calculated relative to IgG.

2.4.8.3 ChIP library preparation and sequencing

Libraries were constructed using TruSeq ChIP Library Preparation Kit Set A and Set B (Illumina, IP-202-1012 and IP-202-1024) to supply 24 indexed Illumina adapters for multiplexed sequencing. Briefly, ChIP enriched DNA was end repaired, purified with the DNA Clean and Concentrator-5 Kit (Zymo Research, D4014) and eluted in 11 µl of elution buffer (Qiagen). A-nucleotide bases were then added to the 3' end of the DNA fragments by incubating with A-tailing mix, before ligating the relevant RNA adapter index and repeating DNA purification. PCR amplification of the elution product was carried out as per Table 2.13:

Table 2.13 PCR amplification thermocycler conditions

Step	Temperature	Time	Cycles
1	98°C	30 seconds	1
2	98°C	10 seconds	18
	60°C	30 seconds	
	72°C	30 seconds	
3	72°C	5 minutes	1
4	4°C	Hold	-

Both the PCR product and 10 µl of 100bp Hyper Ladder II (BioLine) were then run on 2% agarose gel (100 ml 1 x TAE buffer) infiltrated with 10 µl of Sybr Green (Invitrogen), and fragments between 250 and 450 bp were selected, taking care to exclude adapter-dimers at 126 bp. DNA was recovered by using the MiniElute Gel-Extraction Kit (Qiagen) to elute into 11 µl of elution buffer. Fragment size was confirmed on the Agilent 2100 BioAnalyzer using the Agilent High Sensitivity DNA Kit as per manufacturer's instructions. DNA concentration was calculated by using the SYBR FAST Universal qPCR Kit (Kapa Biosystems), diluting in Kapa buffer

at dilutions 1:20, 1:2000, 1:200,000, 1:2000,000 and 1: 200 x 10⁶. Libraries were combined into two equimolar mixtures of 45 nM and 38 nM, and sequenced on the Illumina HiSeq 2000 platform at the Genomics Core Facility, Cambridge.

2.5 *In vivo* mouse model

Cell extraction was performed by the author of this PhD and F Calero-Nieto. *In vivo* work was performed by G Giotopoulos (Huntly group).

2.5.1 Mice

Six-week old C57BL/6J mice were housed in a pathogen-free animal facility and were allowed unrestricted access to sterile food and water. Experiments were conducted under a UK Home Office project license, as per UK Home Office regulations. This research has been reviewed by the University of Cambridge Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Body, and is compliant with the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 Amendment Regulations 2012.

2.5.2 Cell extraction from bone marrow compartment

Bone marrow CD45.2⁺ 'helper' cells were extracted from tibias, femurs and iliac crests of C57BL/6J mice by making an incision just above the bone marrow compartment and using a 21G needle (BD Microlance 3 0.8 x 40 mm) to flush 5ml of 1 x PBS very slowly through the bone, repeating until the marrow becomes pale. The bone marrow exudate was then passed through a strainer, centrifuged at 300 x g for 7 minutes, incubated with 5 ml of RBC lysis buffer for 10 minutes at room temperature, and centrifuged again at 300 x g for 7 minutes. Cells were then resuspended in 6 ml of 1 x PBS.

2.5.3 Infection with EV and CEBPA N321D-transduced cells

Prior to infection, both cell lines were confirmed negative for mycoplasma by PCR at Surrey Diagnostics. Cells were transplanted via tail vein injection into a total of ten lethally irradiated (10 Gray in split dose) C57BL/6J mice. Five mice were infected with EV-transduced cells and five mice were infected with CEBPA N321D-transduced cells. In each case, 5 x 10⁵ CD45.1⁺ GFP⁺ plasmid-transduced cells and 2.5 x 10⁵ CD45.2⁺ helper cells were transplanted into the CD45.2⁺ mouse. Peripheral blood was withdrawn by tail vein at weekly intervals for the first four weeks and monthly thereafter. Mice reaching humane end points were killed by Schedule

1 method or by exsanguination under terminal general anaesthetic. In addition to peripheral blood samples *in vivo*, bone marrow and splenic tissue was collected from animals *ex vivo*. Chimerism was evaluated by CD45.1, CD45.2 and GFP markers on flow cytometry.

2.6 Bioinformatics

2.6.1 Analysis of single cell gene expression data

Alignment and mapping of single cell expression data was performed by I Kucinski and E Diamanti. Data was uploaded and analysed on ASAP by the author of this PhD. Further analysis was performed using R language code written by the author with input from W Jawaid.

2.6.1.1 Alignment and mapping

Reads were aligned using GSNAP to the GRCh38 genome and reads spanning exons (ENSEMBL m38.81) were counted using HTSeq. The genome and annotation files were augmented with sequences for External RNA Controls Consortium (ERCC) spike-ins, GFP, human *CEBPA* and pMSCV backbone sequences. It should be noted that alignment to human *CEBPA* did not reliably distinguish the single point mutation between human *CEBPA* WT and human *CEBPA* N321D. Reads were mapped to gene features with HTseqcount.

2.6.1.2 QC

FastQC was then used to apply the following quality control metrics: $200,000 < \text{total reads} < 3,000,000$; $0.15 < \text{fraction mapped}$; $1800 < \text{highly expressed genes (defined as counts per million} > 50)$; ERCC fraction < 0.12 ; and mitochondrial gene fraction < 0.2 . Cells which fell outside these parameters were classified as outliers and excluded from further analysis.

2.6.1.3 Data normalisation

For the Automated Single-cell Analysis Pipeline (ASAP), data was normalised using the single-cell Latent Variable Model (Buettner *et al*, 2015). Technical noise was excluded using ERCC spike-ins and the statistical method of Brennecke *et al* (Brennecke *et al*, 2013).

2.6.1.4 Dimensionality reduction

t-distributed Stochastic Neighbour Embedding (tSNE) was performed using ASAP software with Perplexity 25 and Theta 0.5. Results were downloaded from ASAP and plotted in three dimensions using the R package ggplot2.

2.6.1.5 Differential expression

ASAP's DESeq2 function was used to perform differential expression between cell types and conditions on normalized data after filtering.

2.6.1.6 Violin plots

For the generation of Violin Plots, which is not a function provided by ASAP, single cell RNA-seq data was processed on R version 3.5.2 (<http://bioconductor/biocLite.R>). Briefly, raw counts were parsed in to a dataframe, the dataframe was converted to a matrix, and this was correlated with metadata from cells which passed QC. From the DESeq2 package (version 1.22.2), the function `estimateSizeFactorForMatrix` was then employed to normalise raw counts. GFP expression data was specifically removed before calculating size factor as it would skew normalisation. Normalised counts were then log transformed and zero values were filtered out. Violin plots were generated by using the `geom_violin` function from `ggplot2` package.

2.6.1.7 Enrichr

The online gene set enrichment analysis tool Enrichr (Kuleshov *et al*, 2016) was used to analyse gene sets identified by differential expression (<https://amp.pharm.mssm.edu/Enrichr/>).

2.6.2 Analysis of ChIP-seq data

R Hannah performed bioinformatic analysis of ChIP-seq data including genome alignment, peak calling, and read count quantification. The author of this PhD analysed peaks using UCSC genome browser.

2.6.2.1 Genome alignment and peak calling

Raw data in FASTQ format was run through FASTQC to exclude overrepresented sequences and identify adapters. TRIMGALORE was then used to trim adapter sequences from data. The raw reads were then mapped to the mm10 genome using *bowtie2* to generate a SAM file. The SAM file was then converted to BED format by using the `sam2bed` program from the SAMTOOLS suite, before formatting and extending reads to 200 base pairs. The BED file was then converted to a BEDGRAPH density profile, before converting this in turn to compressed bigWig format which could be visualised on the UCSC Genome Browser.

Peaks were called by running MACS2 (Zhang *et al*, 2008) on the BED file data, using the IgG track as a control, and employing a spread of p-value stringencies. Tracks for multiple stringencies were then visually inspected on UCSC Genome Browser to identify optimal p values for counting genuine peaks only in each ChIP-seq track. An in-house Perl script was then used to modify the peaks to 400 base pairs centred on peak summits.

2.6.2.2 Read count quantification

ChIP-seq was performed for all conditions on two separate occasions, and BEDTOOLS was used to perform intersects and identify a union of peaks at regions bound in both experiments. Read coverage was calculated in regions of union for each condition, and then normalised for peak length and total read counts per 10 million reads. For H3K27Ac, the entire genome was split into 200 bp windows and read coverage was calculated over each of these regions. Counts were normalised to total read counts per 10 million reads, as well as using the S3norm method (Xiang *et al*, 2018) to normalise signal-noise ratio. Scores were then log2 transformed and plotted using gplots.

2.6.2.3 Peak distribution analysis

An in-house script mapped a peak to a gene if within a known promoter region as defined by the mammalian promoter database, or if directly overlapping a gene body based on Refgene coordinates. For intergenic peaks, the script mapped peaks to the nearest gene within 50 kilobases on either side, so that it was possible for an intergenic peak to map up to two genes.

2.6.3 Analysis of CODEX data

The author of this PhD performed manual curation of the CODEX database, adding samples identified by the CODEX webcrawler and also manually searching GEO datasets. R Hannah then processed this data using the CODEX pipeline (Sanchez-Castillo *et al*, 2015), and performed bioinformatic analysis to construct heat maps for both transcription factor and histone profiles.

2.6.3.1 CODEX pipeline

Briefly, public data was converted from SRA format to FASTQ format by using the SRA toolkit. Quality control was performed by FASTQC, and overrepresented sequences and adapters were removed with TRIMGALORE. *Bowtie2* was used to align all experiments to the same

human reference genome GRCh37 (hg19), and produce a SAM file, then transformed to an intermediate BED file before converting to a bigWig read density profile. Peaks were called using MACS2 software (Zhang *et al*, 2008) for a range of p-value stringencies, at which stage tracks were manually inspected to identify the optimal stringency.

2.6.3.2 CODEX heat maps

For transcription factors, a matrix was constructed from a master list (the union) of peaks between all samples, based on binary presence or absence of each peak in each sample. Each region (row) was then scored across all samples (columns) in the matrix to give coverage scores for how many reads overlapped a given peak region. Regions with entirely zero coverage scores across all samples were removed from the matrix, and remaining regions were normalised per sample to the total read number of that sample. The samples in the heat maps were clustered based on pairwise correlation between binding patterns across these regions.

For histones, instead of a master peak list, the entire genome was divided into 200 bp windows and the S3norm package (Xiang *et al*, 2018) was used to normalise coverage scores for both sequencing depth and signal-to-noise ratio.

Further processing was performed using in-house Perl and Shell scripts and the R package. Hierarchical clustering was performed in R using the log2 of the coverage scores, comparing pairwise the binding of each sample (column) across all given regions (rows) in the matrix and then clustering based on similarity of those patterns. The DICE coefficient was used on the discrete data in the binary TF matrix, and Euclidean distance was used for the continuous data (coverage scores for histone binding). This data was then plotted using R libraries and functions: gplots, cba and heatmap.2.

3. Construction and phenotypic characterisation of a stable retroviral expression system for *CEBPA* WT and *CEBPA* N321D

3.1 Construction of retroviral expression system

My research hypothesis is that the expression of mutant *CEBPA* will cause transcriptional and phenotypic alterations in a cell line which replicates an early stage of haematopoiesis. Therefore I set out to construct and validate a retroviral expression system for both *CEBPA* WT and *CEBPA* N321D.

3.1.1 Empty Vector (EV), *CEBPA* WT and *CEBPA* N321D plasmids

The *CEBPA* N321D mutation was constructed from synthetic oligonucleotides and provided by GeneArt (Life Technologies) as an insert into a pMK-RQ (kanR) vector with restriction sites for *BLPI* I and *BstAP* I. The plasmid was transformed into DH10 β competent cells, colony expanded on agar with kanamycin, and then inoculated into Luria Bertani broth. DNA was purified, then digested by *BLPI* I and *BstAP* I restriction enzymes, followed by Gibson Assembly with forward and reverse primers to substitute a single nucleotide base for *CEBPA* WT. PCR was used to amplify and add restriction sites and FLAG tag to both the *CEBPA* WT and N321D inserts (see Figure 3.1), and the products were then ligated into a pMSCV-neo retroviral vector with an IRES-eGFP insert provided by the Huntly lab. In addition, an Empty Vector (EV) for the MSCV plasmid was established by digesting an existing stable retroviral expression vector (provided by S Basilico) with *Sal* I and *Bgl* II restriction enzymes to excise the transgene but preserve GFP, purifying the plasmid backbone, blunting and then annealing the two ends.

The retroviral expression system is a bicistronic vector where C/EBP α is translated using a cap-dependent ribosome scanning mechanism with its own 5'-UTR, and translation of GFP is by way of cap-independent IRES-mediated recruitment of ribosomes (Jang *et al*, 1988, Stoneley *et al*, 2004). This mechanism facilitates co-expression of C/EBP α and GFP, although there is evidence to suggest that IRES-mediated co-expression can vary with cellular context (Mizuguchi *et al*, 2000).

parental cells to produce cell lines which expressed EV, *CEBPA* WT and *CEBPA* N321D. Together with non-transduced parental control cells, these three cell lines were then examined for variation in cell growth, immunophenotypic profile and morphological appearance under different cytokine conditions.

3.2 Characterisation of transduced cell lines in self-renewal conditions

Hoxb8-FL cells contain a fusion construct of the hormone-binding domain of the estrogen receptor and the N-terminus of Hoxb8 (Wang *et al*, 2006), and in the presence of Flt3L and estradiol are maintained in an early non-differentiated progenitor state with stable growth, conditional immortalisation and multi-lineage potential (Redecke *et al*, 2013). Transduced cell lines were examined in the presence of both Flt3L and estradiol to evaluate if the *CEBPA*-transduction affected Hoxb8-mediated programs of differentiation arrest (Knoepfler *et al*, 2001).

3.2.1 *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells overcome Hoxb8 effect in the presence of estradiol

Expression of myeloid, lymphoid and dendritic cell markers was tested to look for evidence of differentiation within any of the transduced cell lines, using parental Hoxb8-FL cells as a control. The following flow cytometry panel included markers employed by Redecke *et al* in their characterisation of Hoxb-FL cells and additional markers designed to further elucidate dendritic cell (DC) lineage:

Table 3.1 Flow cytometry panel designed to evaluate differentiation of Hoxb8-FL cells and transduced cell lines

CD marker	Cell type
c-kit/CD117	Haematopoietic stem cells and progenitors
Ly6g/Gr-1	Granulocytes
B220/CD45R	B lymphocytes, plasmacytoid dendritic cells
CD11b	Granulocytes, monocytes/macrophages, dendritic cells
CD11c	Dendritic cells
XCR1	Conventional dendritic cell type 1
SIRP α	Conventional dendritic cell type 2
BST2/PDCA1	Plasmacytoid dendritic cells
F4/80	Monocytes/macrophages
MHC class II	Antigen presenting cells

Importantly, it was noted that the parental cells and the EV transduced cells had very similar profiles on flow cytometry in the presence of estradiol, suggesting that the plasmid itself does not have an effect and that effects seen on flow cytometry are due to the *CEBPA* insert.

Interestingly, the *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells demonstrated increased expression of CD11b and SIRPα in the presence of estradiol at Day 2 post-transduction (see Figure 3.2), suggesting that these cells were differentiating down a conventional dendritic cell (cDC) pathway. Expression of *CEBPA* N321D prevented the acquisition of dendritic cell markers. By Day 5, the decreased proportion of *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells made it difficult to continue characterising them by flow cytometry, but no marked difference was seen in any of the other transduced cell lines up to and including Day 18 in the presence of estradiol.

The *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells form two subpopulations: one which is c-kit^{high} and does not express CD11b or SIRPα, and the other which is c-kit^{low} and does express CD11b and SIRPα. When these two subpopulations are evaluated separately for GFP expression, it is clear that the first subpopulation expresses less GFP than the second subpopulation (see Figure 3.3). One explanation for this observation is that the *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells which show a dendritic cell phenotype in the presence of estradiol may comprise only those cells which incorporate a higher number of plasmid copy numbers.

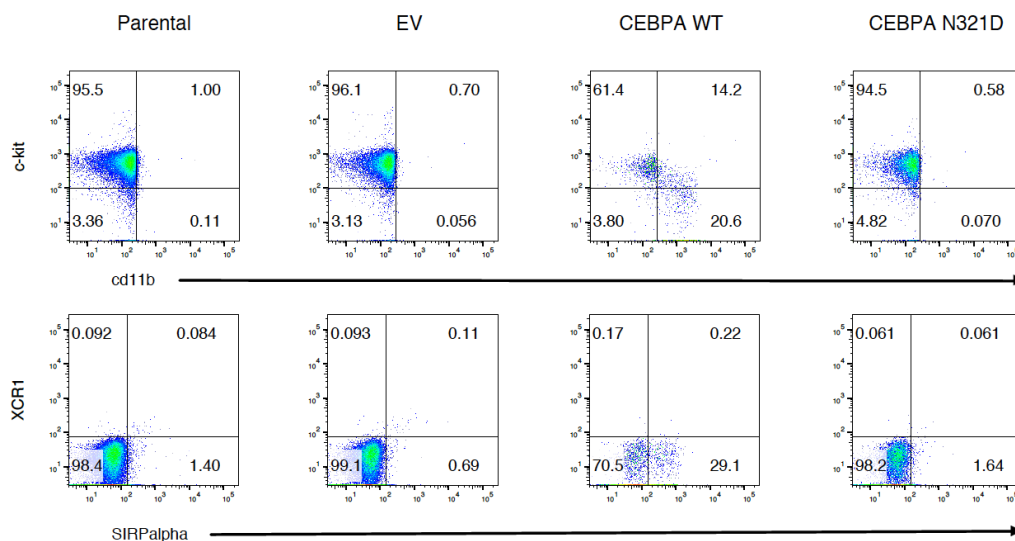


Figure 3.2 Comparison of c-kit, CD11b, XCR1 and SIRPα expression in cell lines. *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells show increased expression of CD11b and SIRPα in F+e+ media following transduction. (3 experimental replicates, 1 replicate showed CD11b only; example shown is representative).

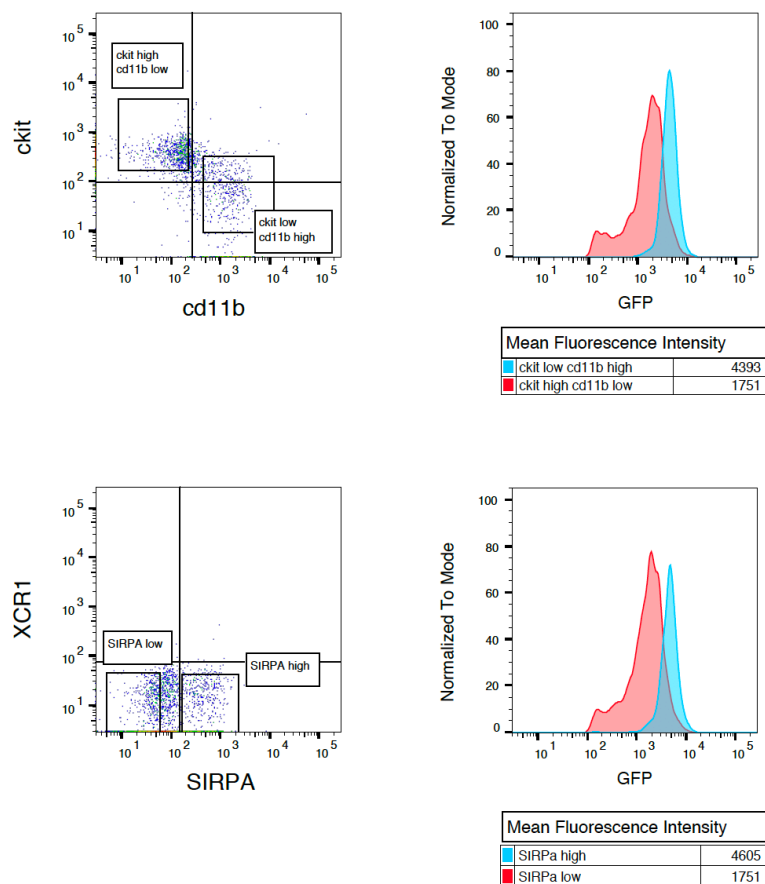


Figure 3.3 Two subpopulations are observed in *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells in the presence of estradiol. Increased GFP expression is seen in cells which are c-kit^{low} and which express CD11b and SIRPα.

One interesting observation is that the few cells persisting from the *CEBPA* WT-transduced cell line, which expressed CD11b and SIRPα in the presence of Flt3L and estradiol from as soon as Day 2 post-transduction (see Figure 3.2 above), no longer show any significant difference from other cell lines at Day 10 (Figure 3.4). The discrepancy between Day 10 and Day 2 expression profiles of *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells in the presence of estradiol may be explained by the observation at Day 2 (see Figure 3.3) that it is only a subpopulation of *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells expressing more GFP, presumably having incorporated a higher number of *CEBPA* WT plasmid copies, which differentiate into a dendritic cell phenotype. It is possible that these cells have fully differentiated and progressed to cell death by Day 10, leaving behind only Hoxb8-FL cells which incorporated single *CEBPA* WT plasmid copies and which have a similar phenotype to other cell lines in the presence of estradiol.

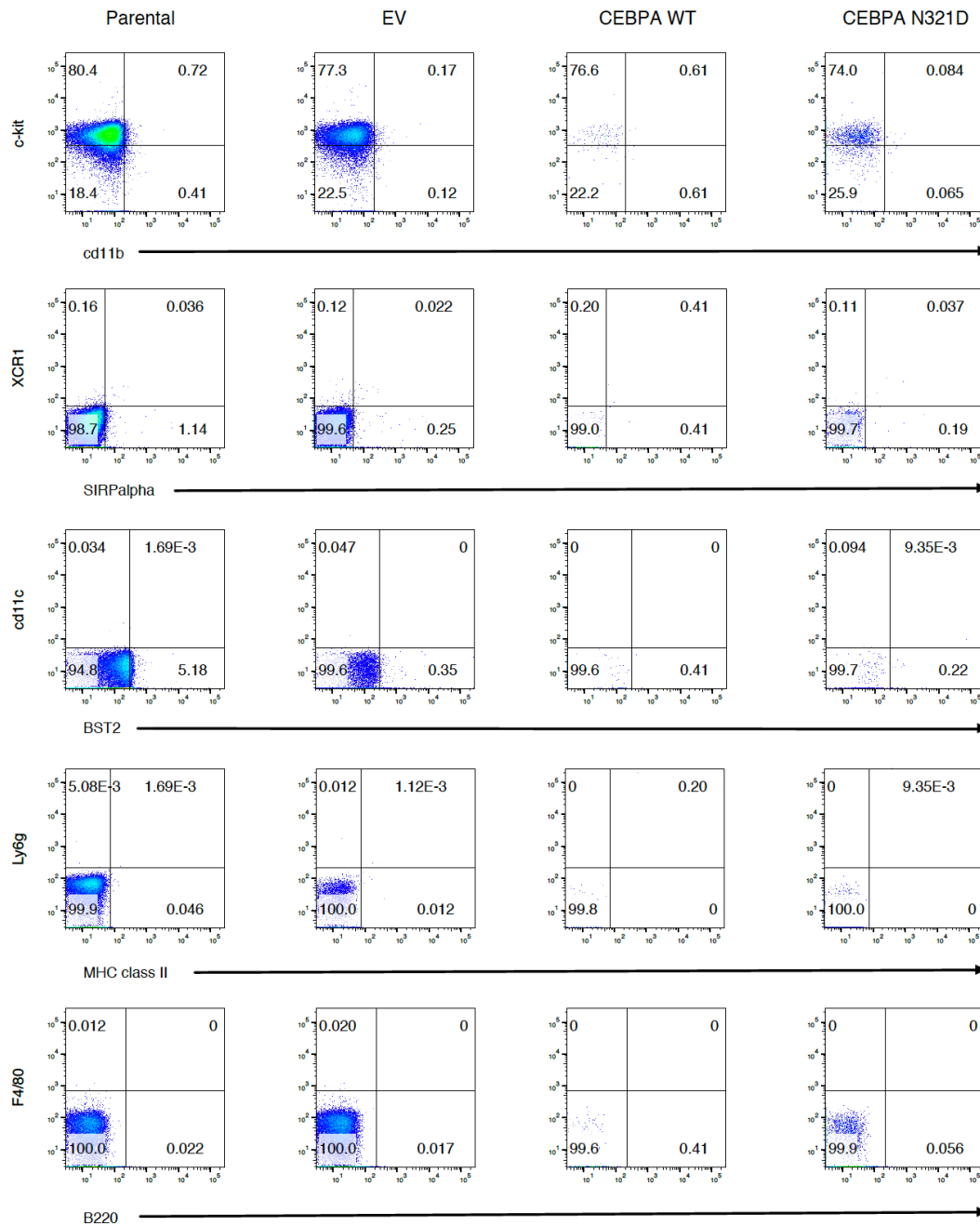
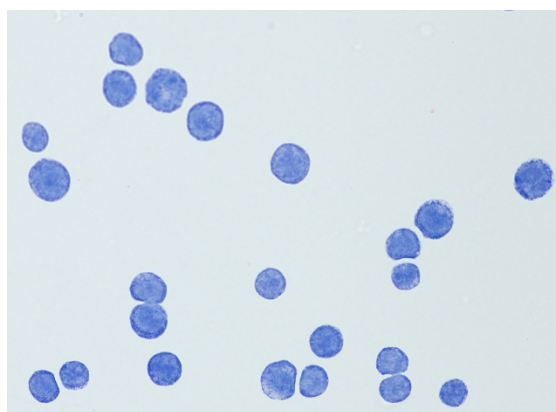


Figure 3.4 Differentiation profile of transduced cell lines at Day 10 in the presence of Flt3L and estradiol. All cell lines are c-kit^{high} and fail to express lineage markers at Day 10 in the presence of estradiol. (1 replicate for all cell lines, 3 additional replicates showed parental, EV and *CEBPA* N321D only; example shown is representative).

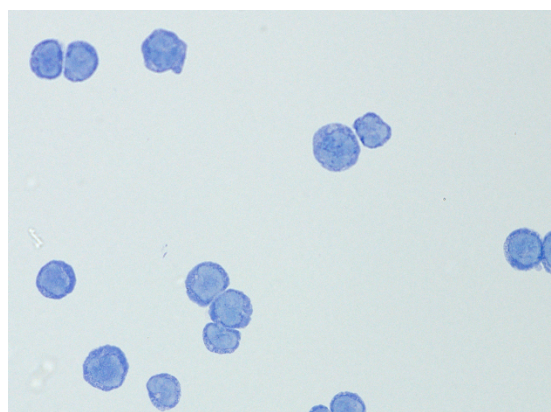
3.2.2 Morphological examination of *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells confirms differentiation in the presence of estradiol

Following the finding that a population of *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells demonstrated a distinct antigenic phenotype on flow cytometry in Flt3L and estradiol, it was important to examine

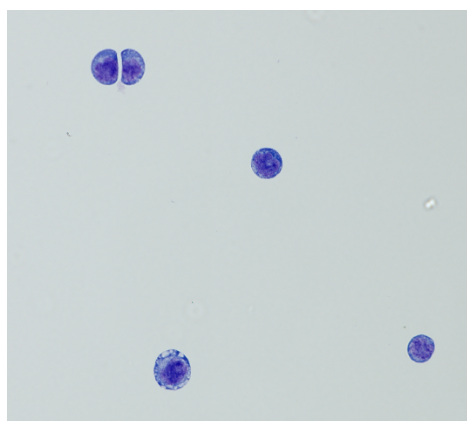
whether this was reflected by a difference in morphological phenotype. Due to the rapid decrease in *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells as a proportion of total cells after transduction, cell sorting was carried out to isolate GFP⁺ EV, *CEBPA* WT and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells at 4 days post-transduction. Cytospin was performed (spin at 700 rpm for 2 minutes, cells were allowed to dry) and then stained using Rapid Romanowsky Stain Pack (TSC Biosciences). Photographs were taken using Axio Imager for bright field microscopy (see Figure 3.5). The EV and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cell lines showed poorly differentiated cells with immature dispersed chromatin and high nuclear:cytoplasmic ratio reflecting their early haematopoietic progenitor status. By contrast, *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells showed denser clumped chromatin and plentiful vacuoli in the cytoplasm (Figure 3.5).



EV cell line



CEBPA N321D-transduced cell line



CEBPA WT-transduced cell line

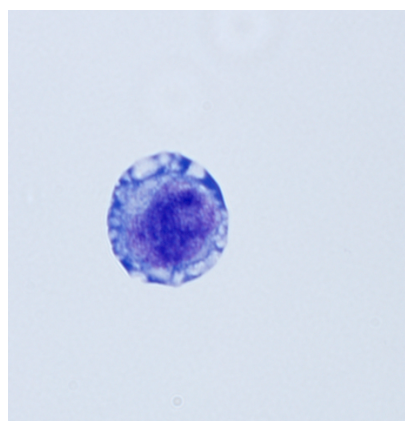


Figure 3.5 Morphological appearances of GFP⁺ cells in presence of Flt3L and estradiol EV and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells are poorly differentiated in comparison with mature clumped chromatin and vacuolated cytoplasm in *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells. (1 replicate).

3.2.3 Cell growth suggests that *CEBPA* WT and N321D transduced cells have a competitive disadvantage to EV-transduced Hoxb8-FL cells in the presence of estradiol

Hoxb8-FL cells transduced with EV, *CEBPA* WT and *CEBPA* N321D all continued to grow indefinitely in the presence of Flt3L and estradiol, however the proportional growth rates of the transfected GFP⁺ compartment showed significant variation between cell lines. Initial transduction rate for EV cells was around 70% at Day 2, and this increased to nearly 90% by Day 20. By contrast, the *CEBPA* WT cells were approximately 10% transduced at Day 2, and this decreased to 0.5% by Day 5 which was then maintained long-term despite expanding the cells every 2 to 3 days. The *CEBPA* N321D cells showed 25% transduction at Day 2, which gradually decreased to 10% by Day 20.

This demonstrated a functional variation between the three cell lines. The EV-transduced cells maintained the Hoxb8-FL growth pattern, whereas the *CEBPA* WT and N321D transduced cells had a competitive disadvantage (see Figure 3.6). This suggests that both *CEBPA* WT and N321D interfere with the differentiation arrest program in Hoxb8-FL parental cells when cultured in self-renewal conditions.

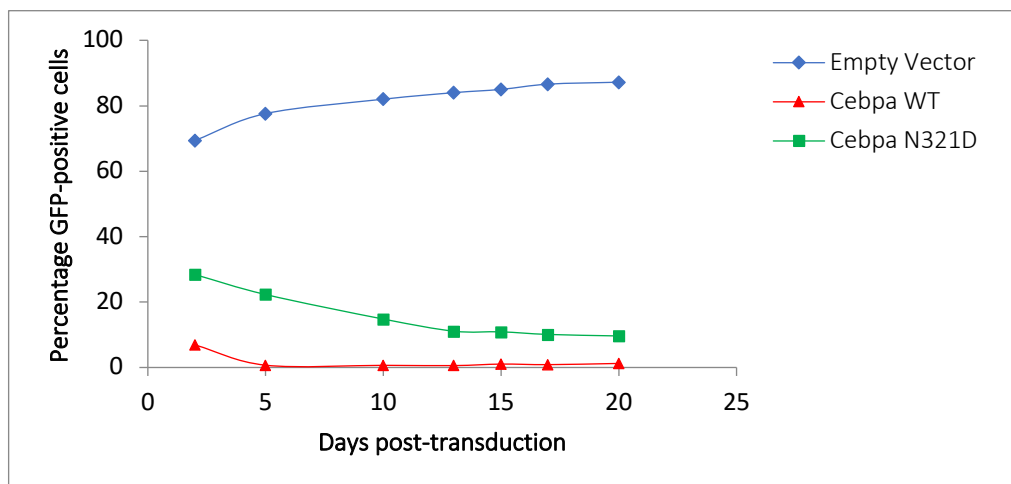


Figure 3.6 Competition assay of Hoxb8-FL parental cells after transduction with retroviral vectors. Decreased proportion of GFP⁺ *CEBPA* WT and N321D-transduced cells, contrasting with stable growth of EV-transduced cells.

Graphical representation of logarithmic growth in the three transduced cells lines also demonstrated the variation in growth rate within the GFP⁺ compartment (see Figure 3.7).

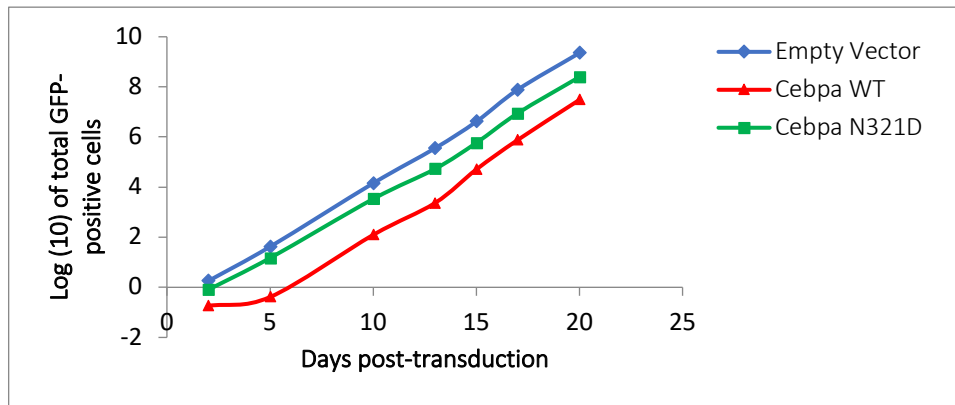


Figure 3.7 Logarithmic growth chart for transduced cell lines. Constant growth rates seen for Hoxb8-parental cells transduced by EV, *CEBPA* WT and *CEBPA* N321D.

3.3 Characterisation of transduced cell lines upon differentiation

Hoxb8-FL cells have multi-lineage potential and can be differentiated into myeloid and lymphoid cell types upon withdrawal of estradiol. Transcriptionally, they are most similar to LMPP cells (Redecke *et al*, 2013). Specifically, they are able to differentiate into cDCs and plasmacytoid dendritic cells (pDCs) in the presence of Flt3L, into DCs and granulocytes in the presence of GM-CSF, and into macrophages in the presence of M-CSF. In addition, it is known that granulopoiesis can be rescued in *C/EBPα*^{-/-} mice in the presence of exogenous IL-3 (Hirai *et al*, 2006). The EV, *CEBPA* WT and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cell lines were therefore differentiated in these four cytokine conditions for 5 days.

3.3.1 Flow cytometry characterisation of transduced cell lines upon differentiation in GM-CSF, IL-3, M-CSF, and Flt3L

EV and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells maintained in Flt3L and estradiol remained c-kit^{high} and expressed no lineage markers up to Day 10 (Figure 3.4). This was in keeping with the behaviour of Hoxb8 parental cells which are conditionally immortalised in the presence of estradiol.

Differentiation was then performed by removing estradiol and culturing cells in the presence of GM-CSF, IL-3, M-CSF and Flt3L cytokines, and comparing the flow cytometry profile of GFP⁺ transduced cells with GFP⁻ non-transduced cells (Figure 3.8). This initial experiment was performed with a simplified flow panel using markers of granulocytic (Gr1), dendritic (CD11b), or lymphocytic (B220) differentiation (Figure 3.8). There was no significant phenotypic difference between the three transduced models in GM-CSF, IL-3 or M-CSF, to suggest that *CEBPA* N321D has any substantial effect on granulopoiesis, emergency granulopoiesis or

macrophage development of Hoxb8-FL cells during differentiation. Rather, this initial exploratory data suggested that an important early haematopoietic effect of the *CEBPA* N321D mutation was related to dendritic differentiation pathways, and it was decided to explore this phenotype further by using the flow cytometry panel described in Table 3.1.

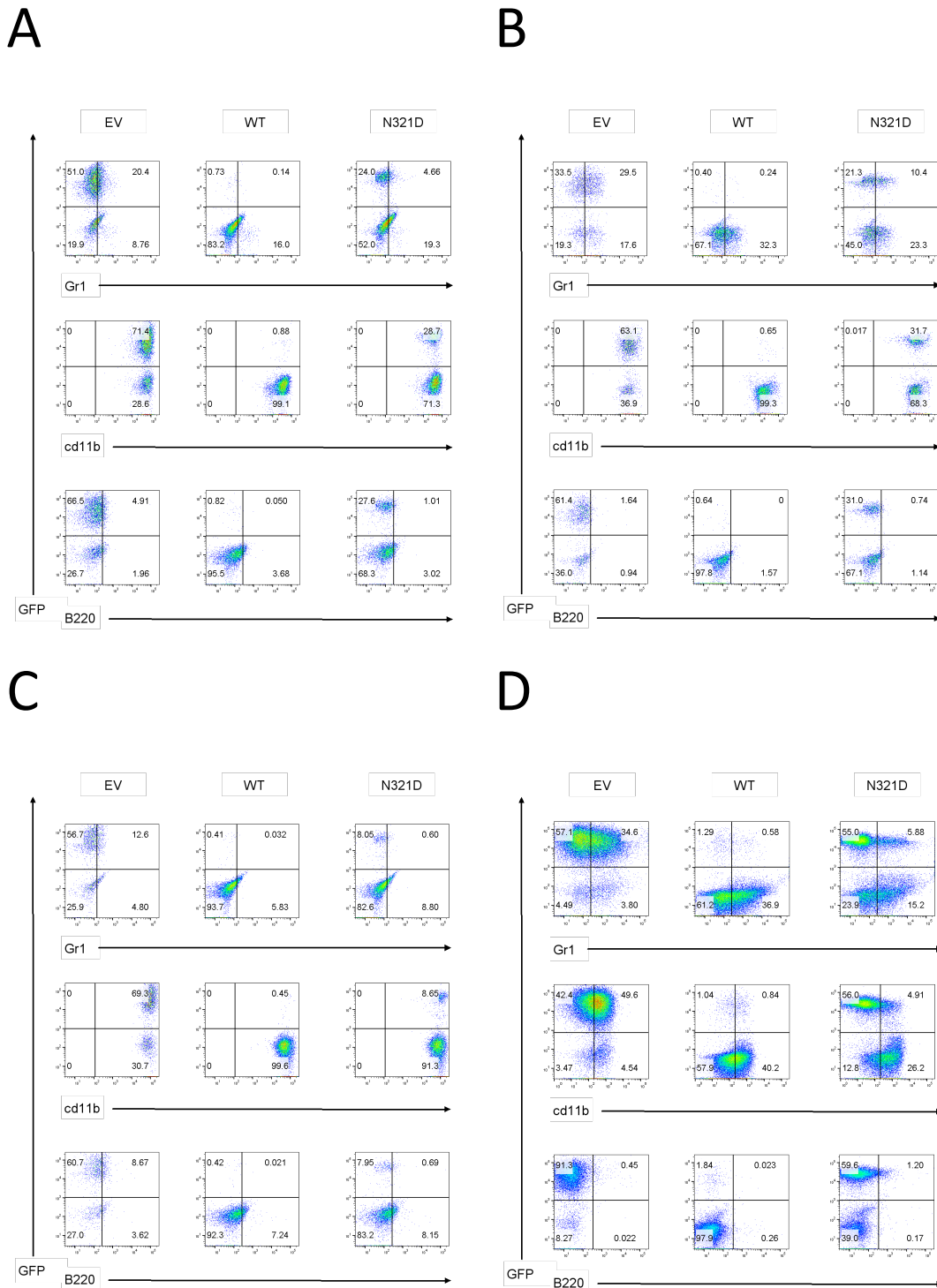


Figure 3.8 Differentiation profile of transduced cell lines at Day 5 in the presence of (A) GM-CSF, (B) IL-3, (C) M-CSF, and (D) Flt3L. *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells show marked reduction in CD11b expression when cultured in Flt3L. (2 replicates for all cell lines, 1 additional replicate for EV and *CEBPA* N321D only; example is broadly representative).

By Day 5 of differentiation in Flt3L, the EV-transduced cells showed marked expression of CD11b, SIRP α , CD11c and BST2, and showed no expression of XCR1 (Figure 3.9).

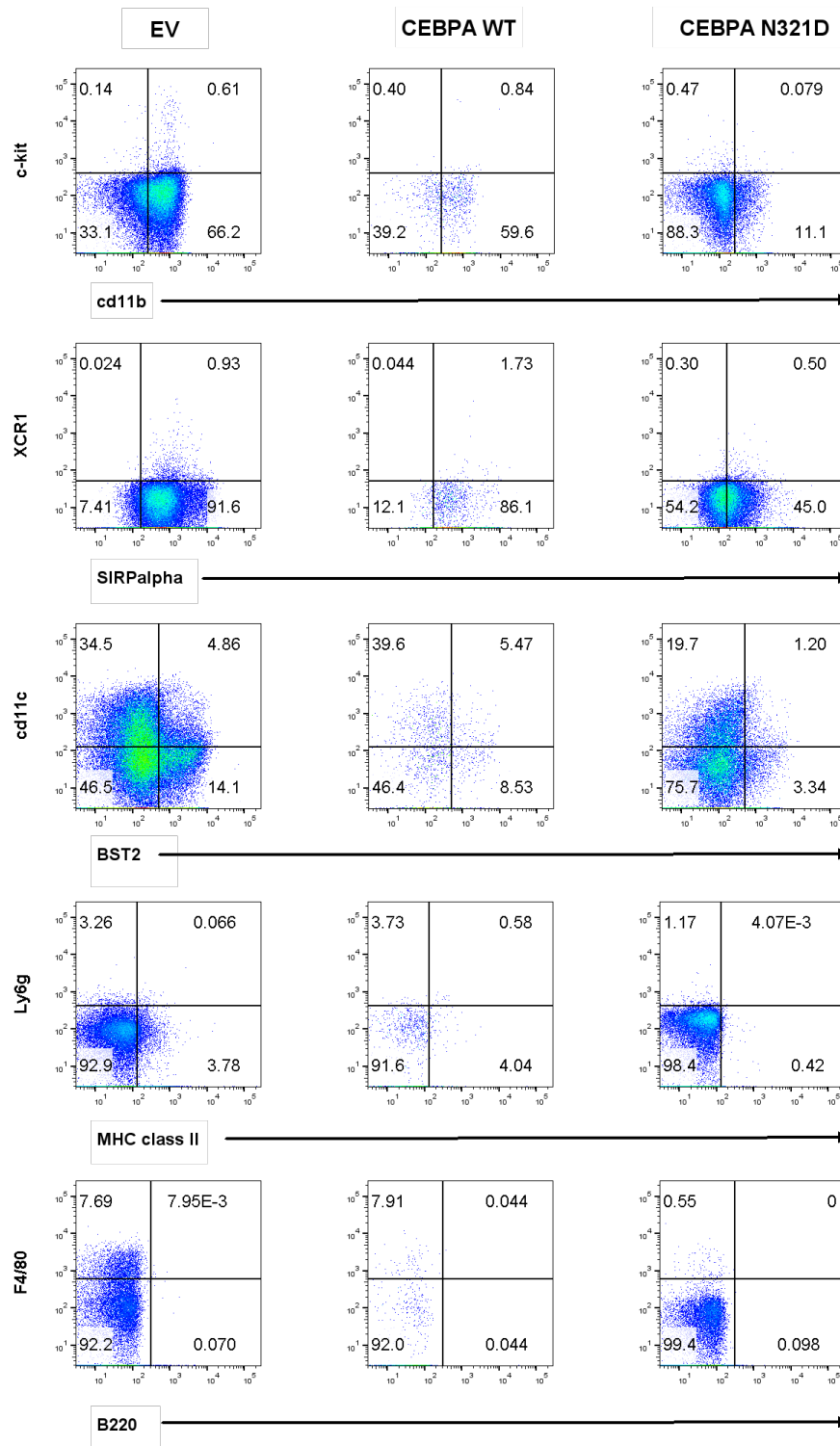


Figure 3.9 Differentiation profile of transduced cell lines at Day 5 in the presence of Flt3L and withdrawal of estradiol. *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells show decreased expression of CD11b, SIRP α , CD11c and BST2 at Day 5 of differentiation. (1 replicate for all cell lines and full panel as shown, 3 additional replicates for EV and *CEBPA* N321D cell lines and full marker panel, 2 additional replicates for all cell lines and all cell markers except XCR1).

This confirmed the data demonstrated by Redecke *et al* in their original description of Hoxb8-FL cells, suggesting that this cell line differentiates into both cDCs and pDCs in Flt3L, although our additional characterisation of these cells as SIRP α ⁺ XCR1⁻ suggests that they are type 2 cDCs. Interestingly, the *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells showed a similar profile to EV cells after 5 days of differentiation in Flt3L. By contrast, the *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cell line demonstrated reduced expression of both conventional (CD11b, CD11c, SIRP α) and mature plasmacytoid (CD11c, BST2) DC markers, in comparison with EV and *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells (Figure 3.9).

By Day 10, *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells were also characterised by decreased expression of MHC class II, CD11c, BST2 and F4/80 (Figure 3.10):

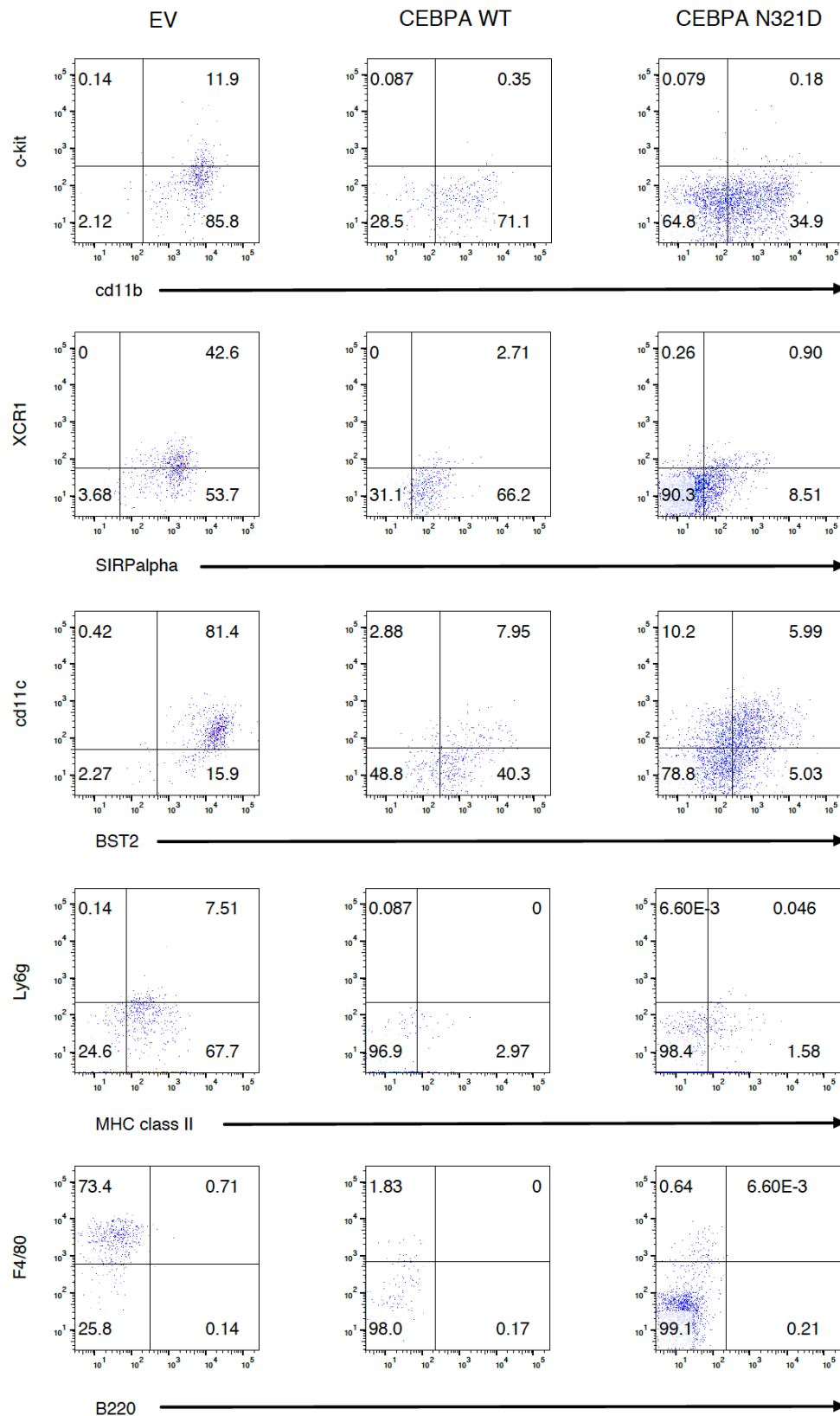


Figure 3.10 Differentiation profile of transduced cell lines at Day 10 in the presence of Flt3L and withdrawal of estradiol. (1 replicate for all cell lines, 3 additional replicates for EV and CEBPA N321D cell lines only).

3.3.2 Morphological examination shows that *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells display differentiation defect compared to EV-transduced cells in the presence of Flt3L

Flow cytometry was repeated on cells differentiated in Flt3L during two separate collections of ChIP nuclei and demonstrated a similar profile as described above. *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells rapidly decreased to less than 0.5% of total cells after differentiation, and therefore morphological examination of GFP⁺ sorted cells was performed only on EV and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells at Day 5 of differentiation:

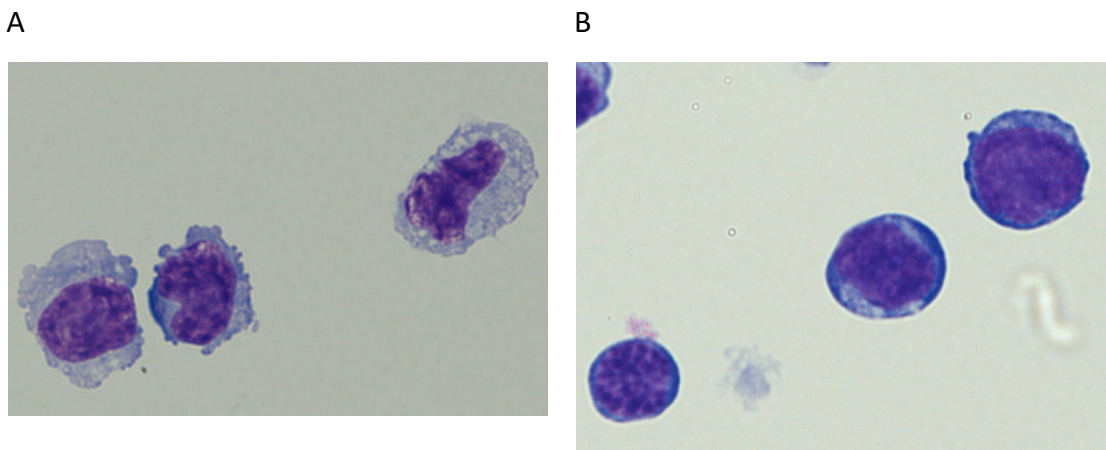


Figure 3.11 Morphological appearances of cell lines after differentiation in Flt3L for 5 days. (A) EV-transduced cell lines are morphologically more differentiated than (B) *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells after withdrawal of estradiol. (2 replicates, examples shown are broadly representative).

Differentiated EV and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells demonstrated a clear morphological difference with differentiation block evident on morphological examination of the *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells. The EV transduced cells had relatively small nuclei and vacuolated cytoplasm, and some cells suggested pre-DC appearances consisting of lateralised reniform nuclei, typical Golgi regions and a few prominent dendritic projections. By contrast, the *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells had larger nuclear:cytoplasmic ratio and no evidence of dendritic differentiation (see Figure 3.11).

3.3.3 Cell growth shows that *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells are immortalised independently of *Hoxb8* expression

Unsurprisingly, the distinct differentiation profile of EV and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells resulted in very different growth profiles. By Day 12 post-differentiation, not many live viable cells can be observed in the EV cell line. However, *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells continued

to grow in the absence of estradiol in the media. We kept these cells in culture up to Day 56 without any signs of reduction in growth capabilities (see Figures 3.12 and 3.13).

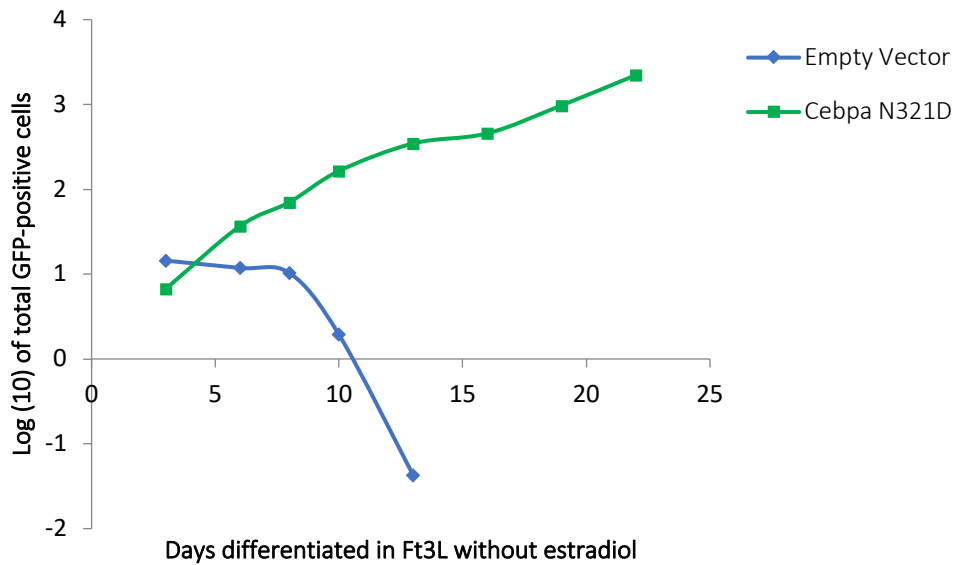


Figure 3.12 Logarithmic growth chart for transduced cell lines. *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells demonstrate growth advantage on differentiation in Ft3L without estradiol.

3.4 Differentiation of *CEBPA* N321D cell line for extended time period in Ft3L suggests Hoxb8-independent immortalised pDC progenitor phenotype

Having established in multiple transduction experiments that the *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells under-expressed markers of dendritic cell maturation at Day 5 of differentiation in Ft3L, the next question was to follow mutant transfected cells in Ft3L without estradiol and investigate their growth and phenotype over an extended period of time.

CEBPA N321D-transduced cells in Hoxb8 media F+e- were vigorously pipetted, centrifuged, and cells were then resuspended in fresh F+e- media every 2 to 3 days. Cells continued to grow until the experiment was discontinued at Day 56:

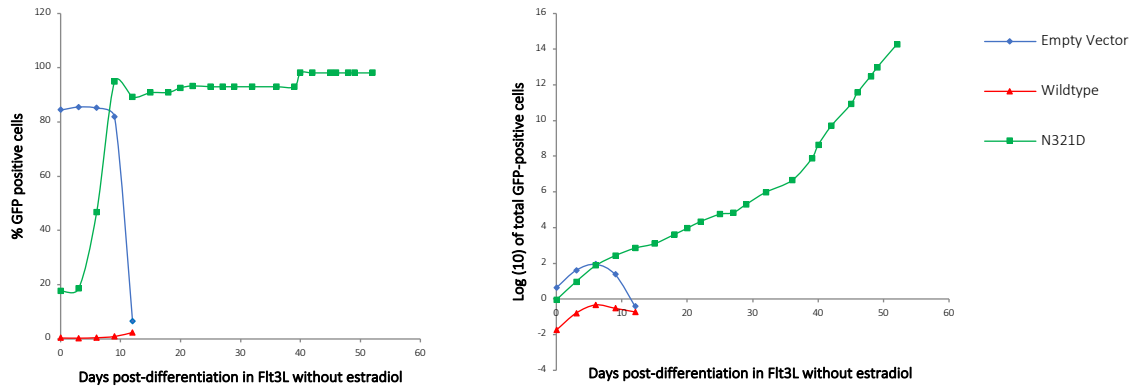


Figure 3.13 Indefinite expansion of *CEBPA* N321D cell line in Flt3L without estradiol. (A) Percentage of GFP⁺ cells over time. (B) Log (10) of GFP⁺ cells over time.

CEBPA N321D-transduced cells in Flt3L therefore appeared to demonstrate a Hoxb8-independent immortalised phenotype. Morphological appearance suggested differentiation arrest with cytoplasmic vacuoles, Golgi regions, indented and occasionally reniform nuclei with partially condensed chromatin, increased nuclear:cytoplasmic ratio, and small dendritic projections:

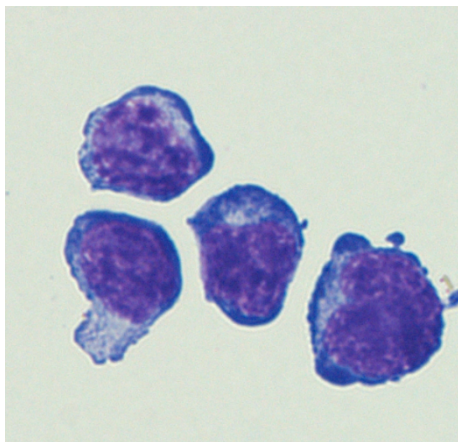


Figure 3.14 *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells after 56 days of differentiation in Hoxb8 media F+e-. (1 replicate only).

Furthermore, flow cytometry of the immortalised cell line at Day 56 demonstrated a dramatically different phenotype from the phenotype described at Days 5 and 10 above. These cells were c-kit negative, expressed no cDC markers, but did express markers suggestive of a BST2⁻ pDC progenitor phenotype:

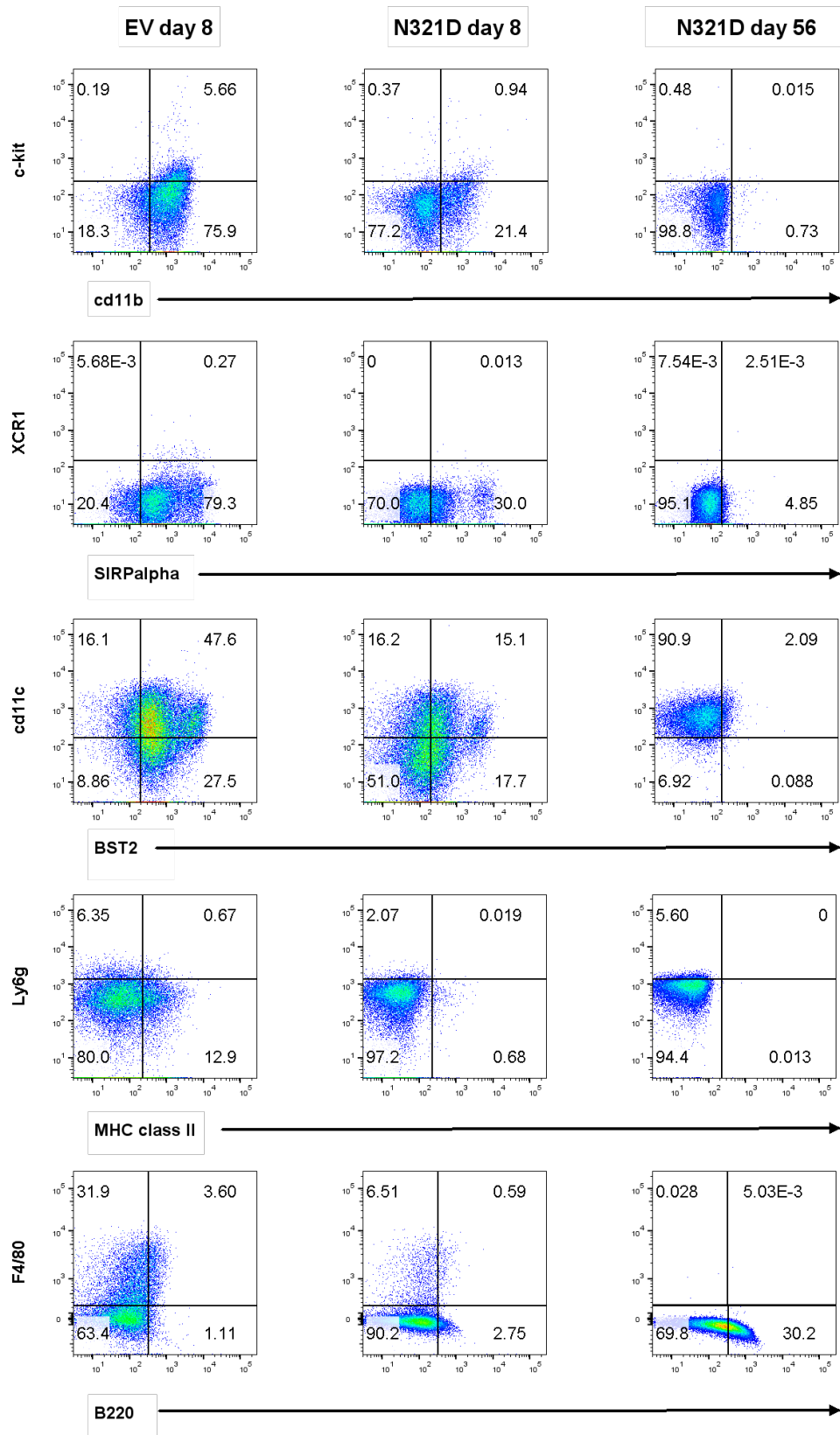


Figure 3.15 Differentiation profile of *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells after extended time period in *Hoxb8* media F+e- . *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells are CD11c⁺ and B220⁺ at Day 56 of differentiation in Flt3L, in comparison with EV and mutant cells differentiated for 8 days. (1 replicate, 1 additional replicate of *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells at Day 31 of differentiation with similar cell marker profile seen in Figure 3.17).

Intriguingly, the differentiation profile of the mutant cells has switched from reduced expression of cDC markers at week one, to a pDC progenitor-like phenotype at week eight. It was then decided to repeat differentiation of *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells in Hoxb8 media F+e- and perform flow cytometry every 7 days from Day 3 to Day 31. This confirmed a gradual progression in the immunophenotype of mutant cells (see Figure 3.16).

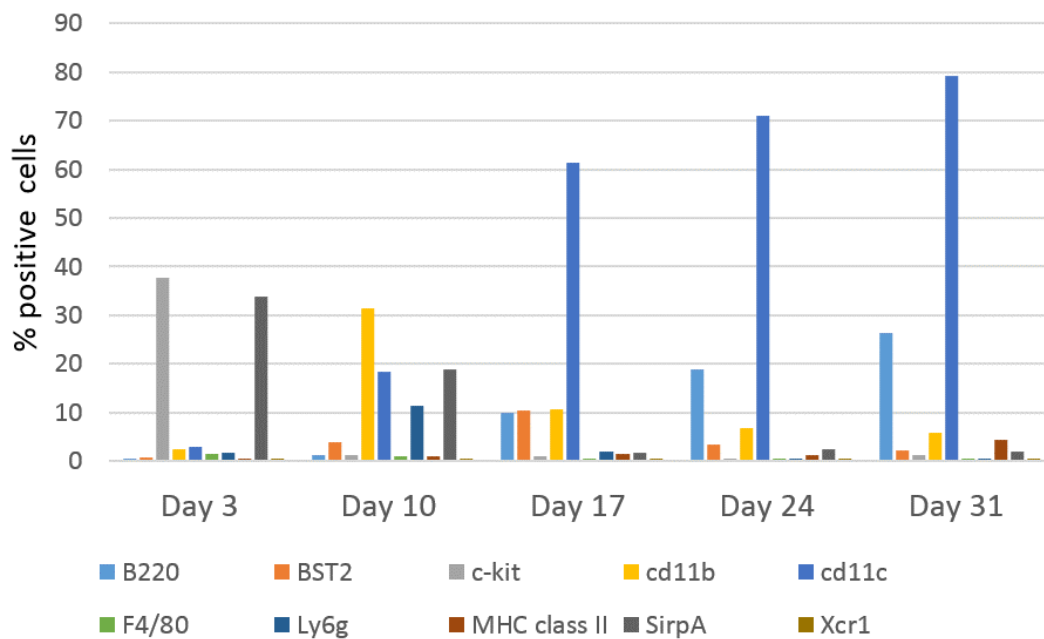


Figure 3.16 Flow cytometry shows progression of *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cell line through 4 weeks into a final c-kit^{low} CD11c⁺ B220⁺ phenotype. (1 replicate only).

Flow cytometry at Day 31 with this biological replicate, originating from a distinct transfection of Hoxb8-FL cells with *CEBPA* N321D, demonstrated a similar profile as was previously observed (see Figure 3.15) at Day 56 with cells in Flt3L differentiating media:

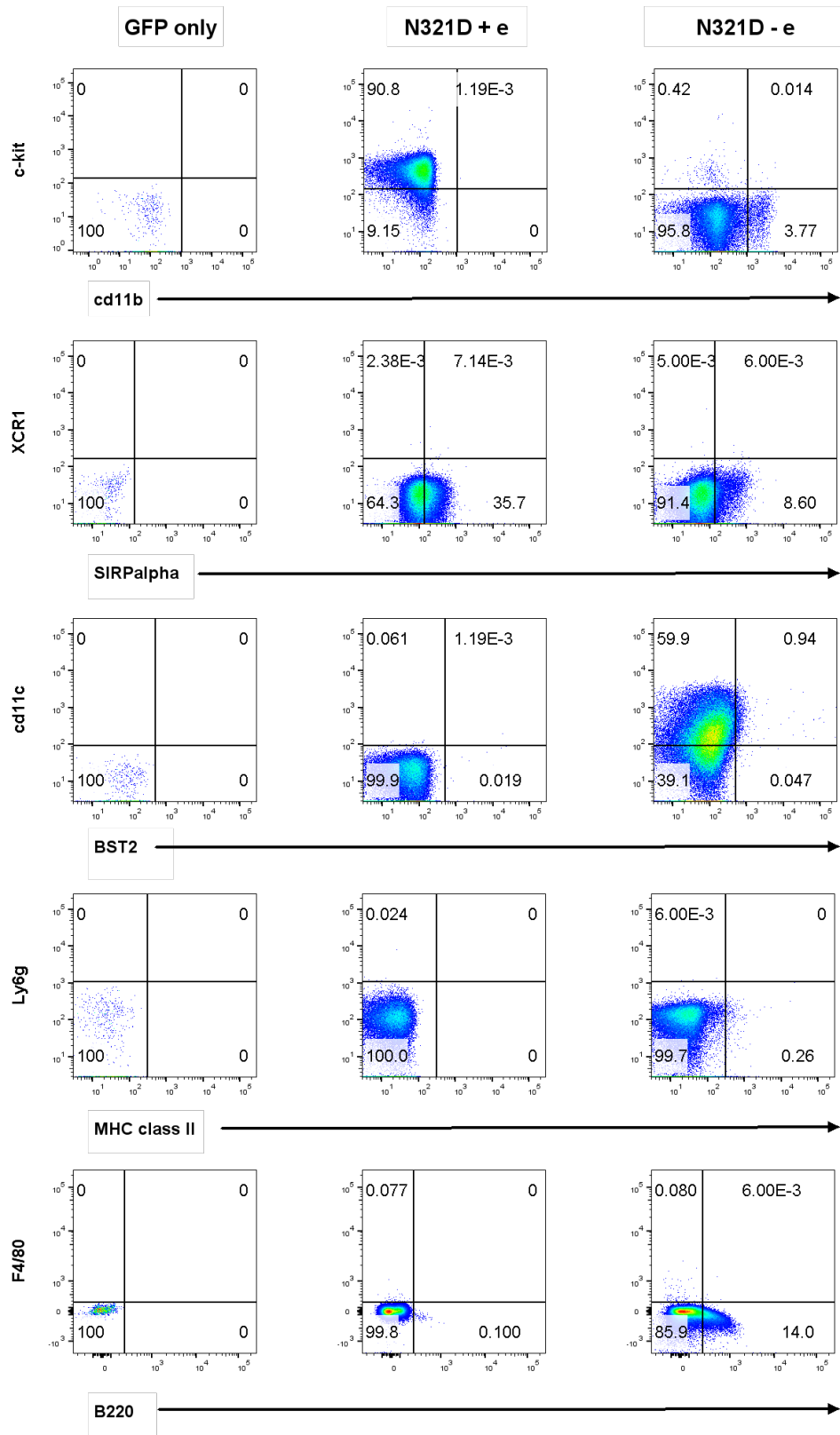


Figure 3.17 Differentiation profile of *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells at Day 31 in *Hoxb8* media F+e- . *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells are confirmed as CD11c⁺ and B220⁺ at Day 31 of differentiation in Flt3L, using unstained GFP *Hoxb8* parental cells in Flt3L and estradiol as a control. (1 replicate, 1 additional replicate of *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells at Day 56 of differentiation with similar cell marker profile seen in Figure 3.15).

3.5 *In vivo* potential of Hoxb8-independent *CEBPA* N321D cells

Our *in vitro* results suggested that *CEBPA* N321D-transduced Hoxb8 cells were immortalised as a pDC progenitor-like cell line in the presence of Flt3L and in the absence of estradiol-mediated expression of *HOXB8*. We then sought to recapitulate these findings in an *in vivo* model. Hoxb8-FL cells were originally generated by Redecke *et al* from C57BL/6J mice and were able to transiently repopulate lethally irradiated mice in a time-dependent manner but did not demonstrate self-renewal capacity, leaving the bone marrow by Day 38. In addition, in a separate experimental model, bone marrow mononuclear cells were infected with retrovirus harbouring the *CEBPA* N321D mutation and induced a rapid leukaemic phenotype when transplanted into C57BL/6J mice (Togami *et al*, 2014).

We therefore decided to introduce Empty Vector and immortalised *CEBPA* N321D-transduced Hoxb8 cells into two cohorts of an *in vivo* study with five C57BL/6J mice in each cohort. EV-transduced cells in F+e+ media and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells at Day 38 of differentiation in Hoxb8 media F+e- were confirmed negative for mycoplasma before transplantation. Six-week old Ly 5.2 C57BL/6J mice were lethally irradiated and then injected with 5×10^5 Hoxb8-FL Ly 5.1 GFP⁺ cells and 2×10^5 Ly 5.2 C57BL/6J bone marrow 'helper' cells via tail vein. Peripheral blood was withdrawn from the tail vein, initially weekly, to monitor engraftment and repopulation.

By Day 7 post-injection, the Ly 5.1 GFP⁺ EV cells were undetectable in peripheral blood whereas the *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells comprised about 9% of peripheral blood. However, the percentage of *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells decreased steadily so that by Day 28 the mutant cohort showed <1.0% Ly 5.1 circulating cells (see Figure 3.18).

Mice from both cohorts demonstrated no Ly 5.1 cells in peripheral blood at Day 120, and exhibited no altered body weight, physical appearance or measurable clinical signs. It was therefore decided to sacrifice one mouse from each cohort at Day 149 post-infection. The mouse injected with *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells demonstrated a distinct population of 6.2% CD45.1⁺ CD45.2⁻ cells in the bone marrow (Figure 3.19).

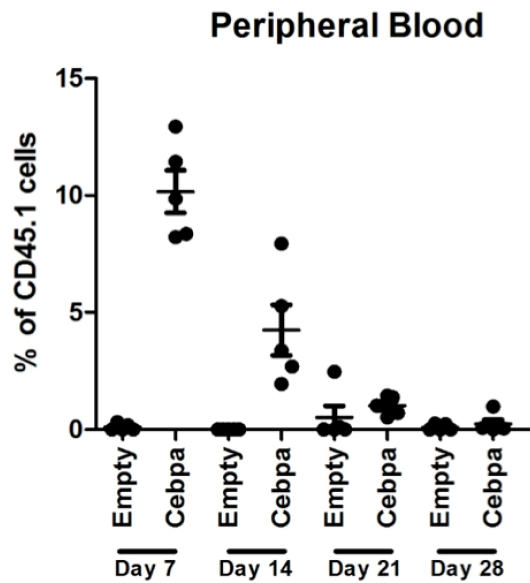


Figure 3.18 Circulating Ly 5.1 cells in C57BL/6J mice. Percentage of CD 45.1 cells in both cohorts of mice injected with EV and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced Hoxb8-FL cells. Figure provided by G Giotopoulos (Huntly group).

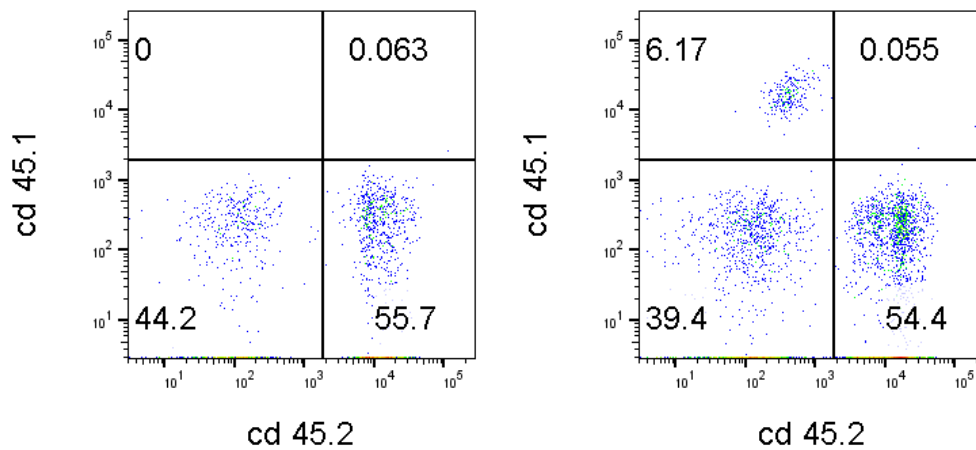


Figure 3.19 Bone marrow profile of C57BL/6J mice infected with CD 45.1 cells. (A) Mouse infected with EV-transduced Hoxb8-FL cell shows no long-term engraftment. (B) Mouse infected with *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells demonstrates 6.2% engraftment of bone marrow cells at Day 149.

On Day 264, one of the mice reached humane end-point (weight loss, lethargy, hunched posture) and was culled. Peripheral blood showed mild anaemia and thrombocytopenia but

white cell count was normal (HGB $10.7 \times 10^9/\text{L}$, WBC $5.8 \times 10^9/\text{L}$, platelets $100 \times 10^9/\text{L}$). Necropsy revealed a marginally enlarged spleen (0.386 gr) and a normal sized liver (1.48 gr). In order to isolate leucocytes, particularly in the spleen, we gated on CD45⁺ cells and found that these cells were 80.2% and 99.1% GFP⁺ respectively in the bone marrow and spleen (Figure 3.20). Further characterisation of these GFP⁺ cells demonstrated that they were B220^{high}, CD4^{low}, CD11b^{high} and Gr1^{high} (Figure 3.21).

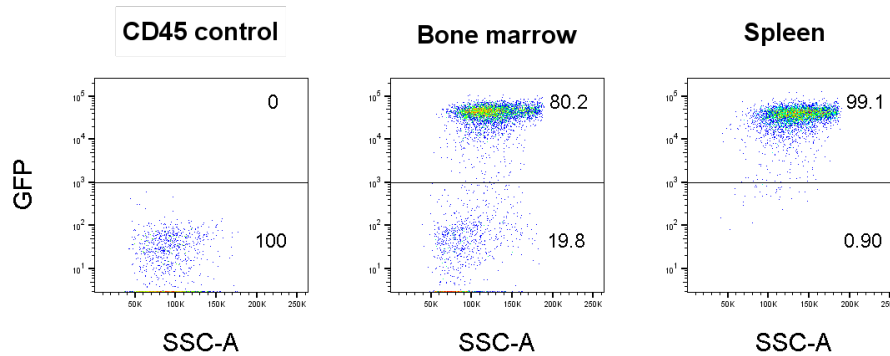


Figure 3.20 GFP⁺ cells in bone marrow and spleen of mouse culled at Day 264. Cells were gated for CD45⁺ leucocyte compartment, and demonstrated >20% infiltration of bone marrow and spleen with GFP⁺ cells.

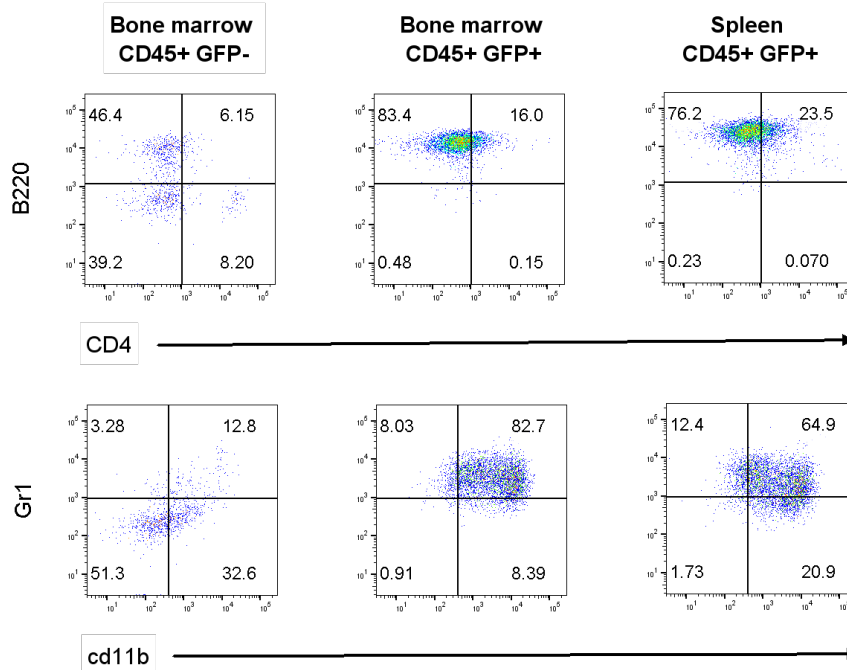


Figure 3.21 CEBPA N321D-transduced cells persist in bone marrow and spleen of mouse culled at Day 264 and express B220, CD11b and Gr1. These markers are consistent with DC phenotype.

This was a small preliminary study of two cohorts each of five mice infected with EV and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells respectively. None of the mice infected with EV cells showed evidence of engraftment during 12 months follow-up. In addition, none of the mice infected with *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells demonstrated GFP⁺ cells in peripheral blood at 4 months. However, one mouse was sacrificed from each arm of the study at 5 months post-infection, and the mouse infected with mutant cells showed evidence of long-term engraftment with 6.2% CD45.1⁺ cells in the bone marrow, in comparison with no CD45.1⁺ cells in the mouse infected with EV cells. As previously described, at 9 months one of the mice infected with *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells demonstrated 80.2% and 99.1% infiltration of the CD45⁺ leucocyte compartment in bone marrow and spleen respectively (Figure 3.20), showing markers consistent with DC phenotype (Figure 3.21). A third mouse infected with mutant cells died at month 11, and was found to have evidence of leukaemic infiltration of the bone marrow (data not shown). The two remaining mice infected with *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells were culled at month 13: one showed expansion of GFP⁺ cells >20% suggestive of leukaemia, but the other showed no evidence of long-term engraftment. Overall, these observations suggest that the *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells are capable of long-term engraftment *in vivo*, but do not cause frank leukaemia on peripheral blood counts or significant organomegaly during 12 months of follow-up. In addition, the length of time required for leukaemic infiltration of the bone marrow suggests that additional hits by co-operating mutations may be required for a leukaemic phenotype to emerge.

3.6 Discussion

3.6.1 Cellular model of *CEBPA* expression

Our retroviral system is designed to answer the following question: What are the early changes associated with *CEBPA*-mutated pre-leukaemia? We have aimed to improve on previous cellular models of mutated *CEBPA* where the starting point has not been well-characterised, and consequently it has been difficult to compare start and end points. The Hoxb8-FL cell line was selected because it has significant advantages when building a cellular model of pre-leukaemia. Firstly, it is a conditionally immortalised cell line, with a fusion construct between EHRBD and Hox8 which provides a constant supply of near identical haematopoietic progenitor cells at a permissive temperature. Secondly, it is a robust cell line which is simple to both generate and maintain in cell culture. Thirdly, it comprises the

functional equivalent of LMPP-like cells, with the potential to differentiate into myeloid, lymphoid and dendritic cells *in vitro*. This contrasts with previous myeloid-committed progenitor cell lines employed by the Göttgens group such as the 416b cell line (Schutte *et al*, 2016) and the HPC7 cell line (Wilson *et al*, 2010).

The retention of identical mutation patterns in patients who relapse with *CEBPA*-mutated AML (Shih *et al*, 2006) suggests that these mutations are early events, and therefore it is useful to employ a cellular model which lies upstream of the CMP to GMP transition point. In addition, Naik *et al* have tracked developmental fates of early progenitor cells at single cell resolution by lentiviral-mediated barcoding, and identified not only lineage restriction in most LMPP cells, but also imprinting of B-cell, myeloid cell and DC lineages (Naik *et al*, 2013), suggesting that cell fate decisions occur in early haematopoiesis. Our hypothesis is that Hoxb8-FL cells can recapitulate the pre-leukaemic phenotype of early haematopoietic progenitors in a cellular model of mutated *CEBPA*.

The requirement for *CEBPA* expression at the CMP to GMP junction is well-characterised, with *CEBPA* deletion resulting in absolute loss of GMPs (Zhang *et al*, 1997) and macrophages (Heath *et al*, 2004). In addition, the Tenen group have demonstrated that *CEBPA* deletion causes severe depletion of dendritic cells when introduced into the LSK or GMP fraction, but has no effect when introduced into common dendritic progenitor cells (Welner *et al*, 2013). Interestingly, we find no significant distinction between the EV, *CEBPA* WT or *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cell lines on differentiation of early LMPP-like cells in either GM-CSF or IL-3, suggesting that GM-CSF receptor signalling may not be implicated in the pre-leukaemic stages of *CEBPA* N321D-mutated AML. Similarly, the lack of a distinct CD11b-related phenotype for *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells in M-CSF implies that macrophage pathways are not disturbed by the N321D mutation at this stage of haematopoiesis. By contrast, the marked variation in phenotypic profile on differentiation of transduced Hoxb8-FL cell lines in Flt3L implicates a novel dendritic cell-mediated mechanism as an early effect of the *CEBPA* N321D mutation. It is important to bear in mind that this is one of many C-terminal mutations of *CEBPA* which are implicated in AML, that these mutations can affect functionally distinct leucine zipper or DNA-binding structures and that N-terminal mutations are likely to have very different effects on haematopoiesis. Moreover, the cell of origin is likely to have significant impact on leukaemic

phenotype, suggesting that expression of *CEBPA* N321D in progenitors distinct from the Hoxb8 model used here, may generate a different phenotype.

3.6.2 *CEBPA* N321D mutation

The *CEBPA* N321D mutation is found in human patients with AML (Papaemmanuil *et al*, 2016) and has previously been shown to induce rapid onset of aggressive leukaemia when lentivirally-transduced into BM mononuclear cells and injected into a mouse model (Togami *et al*, 2015). This C-terminal mutation gives rise to the p42 isoform of C/EBP α , preserving both transactivation domains and the DNA-binding domain. Single nucleotide substitution by N321D results in the in-frame mutation of asparagine to aspartate within the leucine zipper (LZ) domain of C/EBP α . The LZ is a three-dimensional structural motif formed from a heptad repeat $[abcdefg]_n$ where hydrophobic residues fall at positions *a* and *d* (typically leucine residues occur at position *d*), and polar/charged residues fall at positions *e* and *g*. A single residue can affect the configuration of the coiled coil structure of the leucine zipper, for instance the N321D mutation encodes aspartate in place of asparagine at the 321st codon, and asparagine residues prefer to pair at *a-a'* positions which can in turn reconfigure helix orientation (Grigoryan *et al*, 2008). The hydrophobic and polar interactions between these residues govern the helical topology of bZIP transcription factors and indeed engineered mutations within the LZ region of the MafB transcription factor have been shown to alter dimerisation properties and DNA-binding profile (Pogenberg *et al*, 2014). Given that the DNA-binding region of bZIP transcription factors is generally conserved and that combinatorial versatility is provided by the LZ region, it is likely that the N321D mutation confers altered selectivity for homo- and/or hetero-dimerisation profiles of C/EBP α , and that this in turn dysregulates *CEBPA*-mediated regulatory networks.

3.6.3 Novel pre-leukaemic dendritic cell phenotype induced by *CEBPA* N321D mutation

Dendritic cells (DCs) are exquisitely sensitive mononuclear phagocytes which bridge the innate and adaptive immune systems, responding to Toll-like receptor signalling, capturing proteins and presenting their peptide antigens to lymphocytes via MHC class I and MHC class II complexes. Conventional dendritic cells include type 1 cDCs which are CD8⁺ IRF8⁺ XCR1⁺ and which specialise in cross-presentation of exogenous antigen to CD8⁺ cytotoxic T cells, in addition to type 2 cDCs which are CD8⁻ SIRP α ⁺ and which stimulate CD4⁺ helper T cells (Gurka *et al*, 2015). Plasmacytoid dendritic cells regulate T helper cells, generate T regulatory cells,

and secrete type 1 interferon on viral stimulation. Single-cell RNA-seq on human dendritic cells has recently identified novel DC subtypes and resolved functional inconsistencies by isolating a 'pure' pDC population (Villani *et al*, 2017).

The differentiation pathways of dendritic cells have proven challenging to decipher, with early work suggesting that cDCs and pDCs can develop from both myeloid and lymphoid-committed progenitors (Karsunky *et al*, 2003; Shigematsu *et al*, 2004; Ishikawa *et al*, 2007). The expression of Flt3 receptor for Flt3 Ligand is required for DC formation (Karsunky *et al*, 2003) but transcription factors such as IKAROS (Allman *et al*, 2006), GFI1 (Rathinam *et al*, 2005), and PU.1 (Carotta *et al*, 2010) also play essential roles. More recently, Schonheit *et al* showed that PU.1 remodels chromatin structure at the *IRF8* gene to initiate DC commitment, Lee *et al* showed lineage bias dependent on IRF8/PU.1 ratios in HSCs and LMPPs, and separately Welner *et al* showed that C/EBP α is required for early myeloid DC differentiation (Schonheit *et al*, 2013, Lee *et al*, 2017, Welner *et al*, 2013). IRF8, PU.1 and C/EBP α cross-talk informs cell fate decisions between neutrophil and monocyte lineages including DC lineages (Kurotaki *et al*, 2014). Core binding factors CBF β and RUNX1 are required for the development of all Flt3⁺ DC progenitors (Satpathy *et al*, 2014), whereas RUNX2 is required for terminal differentiation of pDCs (Sawai *et al*, 2013, Chopin *et al*, 2016). In addition, the Immunological Genome (ImmGen) Project has generated a compendium of microarray data which has allowed the identification of core gene signatures for cDCs, pDCs and other DC subsets (Miller *et al*, 2012).

It has been previously shown that Hoxb8-FL cells in Hoxb8 media F+e- differentiate by Day 6 into biphenotypic populations of conventional (defined as CD11b⁺ CD11c⁺ MHC class II⁺ B220⁻ BST2⁻) and plasmacytoid (CD11b⁻ CD11c⁺ B220⁺ BST2⁺) dendritic cells. Our results do not replicate these findings exactly, in particular we do not identify B220⁺ cells within 10 days of differentiation of the EV-transduced cells. This may reflect biological variability as Flt3L media was derived from pooled supernatant collected after seeding of B16-FLT3 melanoma cells, rather than from recombinant Flt3L. However, we do detect all other markers of cDCs and pDCs on differentiation of EV-transduced Hoxb8-FL cells, and our experiments identify that the cDCs are SIRP α ⁺ type 2 cDCs rather than XCR1⁺ type 1 cDCs.

CEBPA WT-transduced cells immediately promote a dendritic cell phenotype in Flt3L even in the presence of estradiol, suggesting that exogenous overexpression of *CEBPA* in Hoxb8-FL

cells is able to override the differentiation arrest caused by estradiol-mediated expression of *HOXB8*. Our results suggest that this phenotype is restricted to a subpopulation of *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells which express more GFP and therefore may be transduced with more plasmid copies, and that these GFP^{high} cells differentiate, leaving behind cells transduced with lower numbers of *CEBPA* WT plasmid copies which persist in estradiol and behave phenotypically like Hoxb8 parental cells. EV and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells remain c-Kit⁺ and fail to express other markers of myeloid, lymphoid or dendritic cell maturation in F+e+ media. Both the *CEBPA* WT and N321D-transduced cells demonstrate a growth disadvantage in competitive assay with Hoxb8-FL parental cells over time, but persist at low titres long-term.

On withdrawal of estradiol, both EV and *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells rapidly differentiate into cDCs and pDCs, and eventually are undetectable by Casy Cell Counter. By contrast, *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells demonstrate maturation arrest within 5 to 10 days, which is characterised by markers of cDC (CD11b, SIRPα) but also pDC (CD11c, BST2) lineage specification. Importantly, the *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells appear to become immortalised in a Hoxb8-independent fashion, and gradually undergo phenotypic transformation with a CD11c⁺ B220⁺ pDC-like profile on flow cytometry by Day 24 of differentiation. These immortalised cells are BST2⁻, which may reflect a pDC progenitor status. Interestingly, our result of an initial cDC phenotype progressing to a late pDC progenitor phenotype reverses observations made in early studies which suggested that pDCs could differentiate into cDCs *in vitro* (Grouard *et al*, 1997). Grouard *et al*'s observations have subsequently been interpreted as short-lived pDCs declining and differentiating cDCs coming to dominate in cell culture, whereas our observations reflect the dominance of an immortalised pDC-like progenitor and the gradual decline of differentiating cDCs. An important question not addressed by our experimental work is how this immortalised pDC progenitor may contribute mechanistically to the myeloid leukaemic phenotype seen in AML. In particular, mouse models have shown that IFN-α is essential for T-cell priming and tumour elimination via antigen cross-presentation to CD8⁺ T-cells (Diamond *et al*, 2011) and several clinical trials have shown evidence that IFN-α has anti-leukaemic effects (Smits *et al*, 2013; Mo *et al*, 2018). In addition, there is emerging evidence of pDC and cDC cross-talk in cancer immunity (Noubade *et al*, 2019) and there is the possibility that our pDC progenitor phenotype deregulates cancer antigen presentation by conventional dendritic cells. Future experiments may elucidate the pDC functional status of *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells, for instance it

would be interesting to verify whether CpG-mediated stimulation of immortalised pDC progenitor cells promotes secretion of IFN- α or if co-culture with CD4⁺ T-cells promotes T-cell proliferation.

On transplantation, the *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells are capable of long-term engraftment in an *in vivo* C57BL/6J mouse model. However, initially on sacrificing a mouse at 5 months, there are no circulating cells in peripheral blood, blood counts are normal and there is no splenomegaly. Long-term follow-up of transplanted mice shows increased Ly 5.1 cells consistent with leukaemia in the bone marrow and splenic compartments at a relatively late stage in three out of five mice, but little effect on peripheral blood counts or organomegaly, suggesting that additional cooperative mutational hits may be required for leukaemic phenotype. Interestingly, this varies from the leukaemic phenotype demonstrated on transplantation of C57BL/6J mice with cells infected with retroviruses harbouring the *CEBPA* N321D mutation by Togami *et al*. However, there is evidence that C/EBP α influences cell fate decisions in a highly state dependent fashion (Zhang *et al*, 2004) and it should be remembered that Togami *et al* transduced a heterogeneous population of BM mononuclear cells, whereas our experiment infects LMPP-like cells. In addition, Togami *et al* employed a different retroviral model which may well have had different transduction efficiency resulting in different expression levels compared to our approach. By contrast, the Nerlov group found that a knock-in model of bi-allelic C-terminal mutations expanded the HSC pool and skewed lineage programming of HSCs but did not cause leukaemia (Bereshchenko *et al*, 2009). It seems reasonable to speculate that *CEBPA* N321D-mediated maturation arrest in the dendritic cell compartment may represent a pre-leukaemic initiating event which requires secondary mutations for the development of leukaemia in a multi-step process. Double transgenic mouse models of *CEBPA* N321D with either a N-terminal mutation of *CEBPA* or alternatively with mutations known to commonly cooperate with single-mutation *CEBPA* in human AML (Fasan *et al*, 2014) may validate this hypothesis, and it would also be interesting to perform secondary transplants of leukaemic cells *in vivo* to see if a more proliferative leukaemic effect is generated in secondary recipients, but both these potential projects are beyond the scope of this study. To our knowledge, this is the first time that a dendritic cell mechanism has been implicated as a pre-leukaemic change in mutated *CEBPA*.

4. Single cell gene expression analysis reveals heterogeneity in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells and dysregulation of HSPC and DC transcriptional programs

4.1 Background

4.1.1 Global gene expression in a cellular model of mutated *CEBPA*

Our hypothesis is that a mutated version of *CEBPA* will perturb C/EBP α -dependent regulatory networks and that the changes can be characterised by performing single cell RNA-seq. For this purpose, we used LMPP-like cells transduced with retroviruses harbouring Empty Vector (EV), *CEBPA* WT and *CEBPA* N321D. Initial characterisation by microscopy and flow cytometry identified that differentiation in the presence of Flt3L demonstrated the most significant phenotypic effects, and therefore this condition merits more detailed exploration at the level of the single cell.

Transcriptional regulation plays an intrinsic role in the cell fate decisions which determine the differentiation of self-renewing multipotent HSCs through progressive stages of lineage restriction into distinct subsets of mature blood cells. The potency of this transcriptional machinery has been demonstrated by TF-mediated reprogramming of differentiation pathways from mature somatic cells to pluripotent stem cells (Takahashi *et al*, 2006).

RNA-seq has become ubiquitous in transcriptomics since it was first described in 2008 (Nagalakshmi *et al*, 2008). It has a number of advantages over previous microarray technology including a higher signal-to-noise ratio, a larger range of expression values, and the ability to map gene expression against the entire genome. RNA-seq can be combined with fluorescence activated cell sorting (FACS) to describe transcription profiles of distinct populations within the haematopoietic tree.

RNA-seq workflows are designed to favour either annotation of novel transcriptomic data or alternatively differential gene expression (DGE). It is important to identify a hypothesis before designing an experimental workflow, for instance DGE workflows prioritise sequencing depth (Tarazona *et al*, 2011) and biological replicates (Hansen *et al*, 2011). DGE experiments aim to quantify differences in transcript abundance between multiple conditions or groups, and

therefore have to account for variances within complex biological systems. Even isogenic cells are subject to biological variance from transcriptional burst kinetics due to factors such as chromatin environment (Dey *et al*, 2015), DNA looping (Bartman *et al*, 2016), histone modifications (Wu *et al*, 2017) and the affinity of regulatory elements (Suter *et al*, 2011). Biological replicates can account for variance and are essential for the interpretation of RNA-seq data on differential expression.

RNA-seq experimental protocols commence with disruption of the cell membrane, followed by RNA extraction using either organic solvents or solid-phase extraction. Targeted enrichment of mRNA is achieved typically by hybridisation of poly-adenyl tails to oligo-deoxythymines (oligo-dTs). RNA fragments are then used as templates for reverse transcriptase-mediated cDNA synthesis. The ends of the cDNA fragments are then ligated with sequencing adapters, which can include indexed barcodes for pooling in multiplex libraries. The cDNA libraries are quantified before sequencing, and data is then run through an RNA-seq analysis pipeline which typically includes filtering, mapping to a reference genome, normalisation, multivariate statistical analysis, and data visualisation.

4.1.2 Single-cell analysis

Single-cell technology presents significant advantages over previous genomic tools which analysed bulk tissue samples and inferred cell types and trajectories from averaged datasets derived from millions of cells.

Firstly, single-cell technology permits transcriptional analysis in the presence of paucity of cells, particularly during early developmental biology. For instance, Scialdone *et al* studied 1,205 single cells to identify early lineage diversification points at the epithelial-to-mesenchymal transition (Scialdone *et al*, 2016).

Secondly, evaluating transcription profiles at the level of the single cell can dramatically increase our understanding of differentiation pathways and their deregulation, based on the premise that cell fate decisions are essentially unicellular. This premise was originally demonstrated by transplantation of single HSCs (Osawa *et al*, 1996). Retroviral integration of reporter genes (Turner *et al*, 1987) and cell-specific viral DNA barcoding (Lu *et al*, 2011) subsequently permitted vector linear tracing of single cells. Examples of novel differentiation

pathways elucidated by single-cell RNA-sequencing (scRNA-seq) include the early diversification between mast cell and basophil progenitors (Dahlin *et al*, 2018). Cancer stem cells are single malignant clones (Quintana *et al*, 2008), and therefore intuitively single-cell technology presents significant opportunities for understanding oncogenesis. For instance, single cell technology has described a subset of CML stem cells which are selected out for survival during prolonged therapy (Giustacchini *et al*, 2017).

Thirdly, scRNA-seq provides a powerful tool to explore heterogeneity within cell populations that appear homogenous using cell surface markers. For instance, massively parallel scRNA-seq characterised 19 novel subpopulations amongst myeloid progenitors after index sorting by conventional surface markers (Paul *et al*, 2015). More recently this technology has been applied to human dendritic cells (DCs) to identify a novel subset of DCs and redefine plasmacytoid dendritic cells (pDCs) (Villani *et al*, 2017). This transcriptional heterogeneity can then be probed for functional relationships, for instance scRNA-seq was followed by functional studies to demonstrate that the first wave of IFN- α production depends on cues from the microenvironment and is limited to a subset of early responder pDCs (Wimmers *et al*, 2018). Haematological malignancies comprise particularly interesting candidates for single-cell analysis because intratumoral heterogeneity underpins fundamental mechanisms of cancer evasion. For instance, single leukaemic cells from AML patients with Quizartinib resistance demonstrate significant clonal diversity (Smith *et al*, 2017).

Single-cell technology is rapidly evolving with a range of scRNA-seq methods such as Smart-seq2 (Picelli *et al*, 2013), Drop-seq (Macosko *et al*, 2015) and commercial platforms such as 10x Genomics Chromium. Each technique has advantages and disadvantages including sensitivity, precision, multiplexing, the addition of unique molecular identifiers (UMIs), RNA processing, and cost-efficiency. Smart-seq2 is widely used for small numbers of single cells because it is highly sensitive, accurate, has lower dropout probability, and enables full-length capture of mRNA, although with significant 3' bias during cDNA generation by oligo-dT primers. Disadvantages include the difficulty in adding UMIs to account for amplification bias, and that the manual procedure requires careful experimental design to avoid batch effects.

Single-cell RNA-seq data analysis differs from bulk RNA-seq because each single cell is represented by a distinct sequencing library, and normalisation is particularly important to

deal with amplification bias and gene dropouts between libraries. ERCC spike-in are commonly employed in Smart-seq2 to improve normalisation. Differential expression and clustering can be carried out using methods originally developed for bulk RNA expression analysis such as DESeq2 (Love *et al*, 2014), but novel tools including SCDE (Kharchenko *et al*, 2014) and DESingle (Miao *et al*, 2018) have evolved specifically to analyse scRNA-seq data. Performance is equivalent for both bulk and single cell analytical tools (Soneson *et al*, 2018).

Data visualisation of single-cell transcriptomic data typically involves analysis by dimensionality reduction and clustering algorithms. Principal Component Analysis (PCA) resolves high-dimensional data onto lower-dimensional linear space (typically 2 or 3 dimensions) by establishing orthogonal projections along which the variance of data is high (Hotelling, 1933). The first principal component is the direction in space along which data points have the largest variance, the second principal component is the direction which maximises variance among all projected data points orthogonal to the first, and so on. The PCA analysis creates as many components as there are variables (in this case, genes with read counts) and each component is a linear combination of all variables, but normally only the first two or three principal components are used to visualise gene expression data because they explain most of the variability between cells. This statistical method can be employed to explicitly map and project complex genomic data onto lower dimensions for visualisation. However, PCA-based projections are restricted to linear transformations of high-dimensional data and therefore can fail to project datasets where data is not linearly correlated, for instance if data points lie upon a spiral-like manifold. Furthermore, the complex structure of gene expression data is often better captured in 2 or 3 dimensions by non-linear methods (Bartenhagen *et al*, 2010). In this regard, t-Distributed Stochastic Neighbour Embedding (t-SNE) converts high-dimensional data into a matrix of pairwise similarities between all cells, and visualises the similarity data by first specifying a limited number of components to represent the data, and then identifying positions for cells in these components that preserve these similarities between pairs of cells (van der Maaten *et al*, 2008). t-SNE employs Euclidean distances or other similarity measures to learn about discrepancies between pairs of data and is therefore better able to preserve local data architecture and cluster cells which are transcriptionally similar. For these reasons, it is unsurprising that transcriptomic relationships and variances within clusters at the level of the single cell are often better visualised using t-SNE rather than PCA. More recently, UMAP (McInnes *et al*, 2018) has been developed as a

data visualisation method that preserves global data architecture as well as preserving local neighbour relations, and SPRING generates k-nearest neighbour graphs to visualise data using force-directed layouts which are more reproducible than t-SNE and better able to visualise continuous expression topologies (Weinreb *et al*, 2018).

Lastly, scRNA-seq can be employed combinatorially with other technologies to further characterise gene expression at the level of the single cell. Methods such as Perturb-Seq (Dixit *et al*, 2016) and CRISPR-Seq (Tothova *et al*, 2017) combine single-cell transcriptome analysis with gene perturbations. Similarly, scRNA-seq can be combined with chromatin accessibility data to construct a chromatin accessibility landscape of haematopoiesis and establish novel differentiation trajectories (Buenrostro *et al*, 2018).

4.2 Experimental design

Hoxb8 parental cells were thawed and cultured for 7 days, and then transduced with retroviral supernatant to prepare three biological replicates each of EV, *CEBPA* WT and *CEBPA* N321D, as described in Chapter 3. Cells were then taken at Day 2 post-transduction for differentiation, washed twice in PBS, placed in wells at 1×10^5 cells/ml in 2 ml of Hoxb8 media with Flt3L and no estradiol (F+e-), and cultured for a further 5 days until Day 7 post-transduction. Single cell-sorting of 32 cells per replicate at two time points (Days 2 and 7 post-transduction, or Days 0 and 5 post-differentiation) was performed on a BD Influx cell sorter running BD FACS software, alongside flow cytometry with a basic panel of markers (c-kit, Ly6g, CD11b, and B220), and the 576 single cells were then processed as one batch using a modified Smart-seq2 protocol described by Picelli *et al* (Picelli *et al*, 2014). Replicates were evenly sorted into 6 plates and evenly distributed in 3 lanes on Hiseq4000, aiming to reduce sources of technical variation by employing a balanced block design (Baran-Gale, 2018). Following scRNA-seq, transcripts were aligned to the mouse genome using GSNAP and Ensembl archive 81, with specific additional annotation for GFP and for human *CEBPA*. It should be noted that alignment to human *CEBPA* did not reliably distinguish the single point mutation between human *CEBPA* WT and human *CEBPA* N321D. Quality control was then applied with the following criteria: 3,000,000 > total reads > 200,000; fraction mapped > 0.15; highly expressed genes (defined as counts per million > 50) > 1800; ERCC fraction < 0.12; and mitochondrial gene fraction < 0.2.

Only the 479 cells that pass quality control were kept for subsequent analysis. The cells were distributed as follows:

Table 4.1 Quality Control for Cell type, biological replicate, and day/condition

Sample-Replicate-Day	Total Reads	Mapped Reads	Mapped Fraction	ERCC Fraction	Highly expressed genes	Mito-chondrial Fraction	QC passed cells
EV-R1-D2	63362912	33712501	0.5	0.03	3571.91	0.08	30
CebpaWT-R1-D2	49475555	20977838	0.41	0.04	2912.39	0.07	25
CebpaN321D-R1-D2	51183404	24131687	0.44	0.04	3018.58	0.1	25
EV-R2-D2	49320596	26084451	0.52	0.03	3306.53	0.09	29
CebpaWT-R2-D2	50558382	26811977	0.5	0.05	2893.85	0.08	29
CebpaN321D-R2-D2	66548088	37163956	0.55	0.02	3745.58	0.07	31
EV-R3-D2	68018455	37955758	0.54	0.02	3713.91	0.08	31
CebpaWT-R3-D2	41734500	20796897	0.43	0.06	2416.3	0.09	21
CebpaN321D-R3-D2	41423878	20898580	0.46	0.05	2827.26	0.1	24
EV-R1-D7	57308244	28164329	0.44	0.08	2241.38	0.11	24
CebpaWT-R1-D7	40481057	15880198	0.28	0.15	1480.82	0.11	12
CebpaN321D-R1-D7	60829038	29085480	0.42	0.07	2649.77	0.1	23
EV-R2-D7	43098006	21604380	0.48	0.06	2614.69	0.08	26
CebpaWT-R2-D7	66943615	37563159	0.55	0.03	3257.55	0.06	33
CebpaN321D-R2-D7	79005298	42265521	0.52	0.03	3220.39	0.07	30
EV-R3-D7	53470150	28480222	0.51	0.03	3182.84	0.06	28
CebpaWT-R3-D7	52445696	27880078	0.51	0.03	3092.15	0.04	30
CebpaN321D-R3-D7	56999382	31592893	0.52	0.04	3198.39	0.06	28

4.3 Flow cytometry of sorted cells confirms CD11b phenotype before scRNA-seq

Cells from each replicate were stained for c-kit, Ly6g, CD11b and B220, and then processed with BD FACS software. In line with the results described in Chapter 3, the only cell surface marker which showed a significant effect was CD11b, which was upregulated in all replicates of the *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells at Day 2 post-transduction and showed reduced expression in all replicates of the *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells at Day 7:

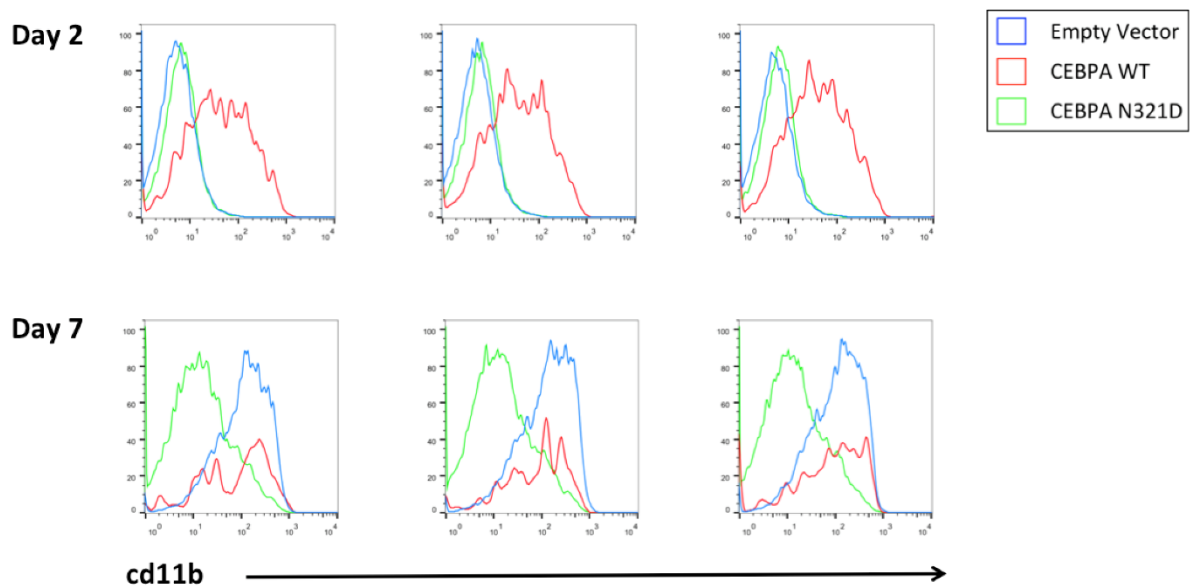


Figure 4.1 CD11b expression (normalized to mode) for 3 biological replicates of EV, *CEBPA* WT and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells at Days 2 and 7 post-transduction before index-sorting

4.4 Analysis of single-cell data using the Automated Single-cell Analysis Pipeline (ASAP)

ASAP is a web-based platform for the analysis and visualisation of single-cell RNA-seq data (Gardeux *et al*, 2017). It provides a visual web-based interface for a single-cell pipeline which allows the user to analyse data after genome alignment. It performs QC, provides different normalization methods, allows visualisation including PCA and t-SNE, resolves cells into clusters, and calculates differential expression between defined clusters. It also provides gene enrichment by Gene Ontology or KEGG. One important limitation is that it can only perform differential expression against the genome of a defined species, and is unable to process exogenous gene inserts such as GFP, but nevertheless it provides a rapid and flexible tool for non-bioinformaticians to analyse single-cell data.

4.4.1 Normalisation of single-cell data

The single-cell Latent Variable Model (scLVM) was used to normalise data and account for confounding factors such as cell cycle variation which can introduce noise into single-cell data sets (Buettner *et al*, 2015). Gene expression was evenly distributed across cell samples after normalisation (Figure 4.2). ERCC spike-ins were used for fitting of technical noise (Figure 4.3),

and the method of Brennecke *et al* (Brennecke *et al*, 2013) was employed to infer 10,456 highly variable genes (Figure 4.4).

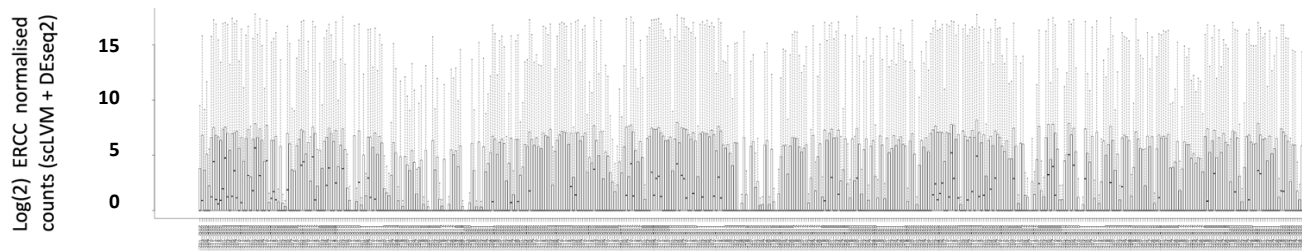


Figure 4.2 Distribution of the expression of genes in each cell after normalisation

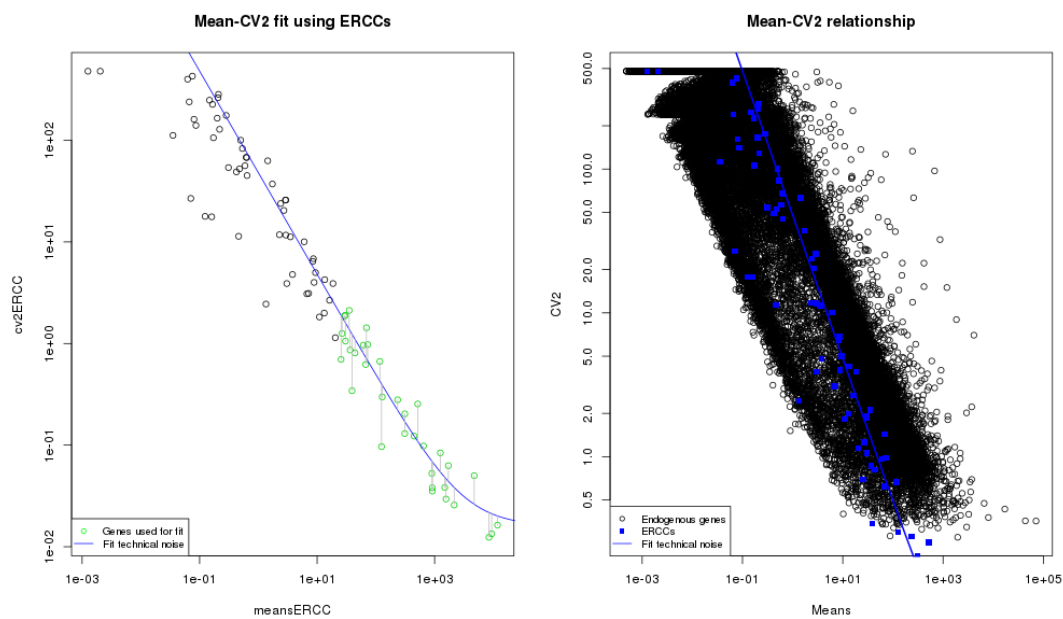


Figure 4.3 scLVM fit of technical noise

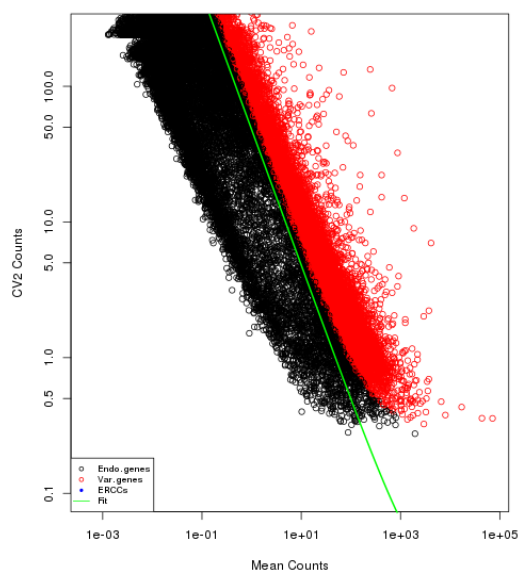


Figure 4.4 Variable genes identified after scLVM fit of technical noise

4.4.2 Single-cell data identifies distinct distributions of *CEBPA* WT and N321D-transduced cells and subpopulations within *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells

Transcription profiles of single cells can be employed to cluster cells and annotate novel cell types by dimensionality reduction and unsupervised hierarchical clustering. ASAP facilitates PCA as a classical linear scaling method for dimensionality reduction, and t-SNE for non-linear dimensionality reduction (van der Maaten *et al*, 2008). Both techniques were employed, but it was found that t-SNE gave a more informative visual representation of distinct cell populations. Cell identities were manually defined, and t-SNE was performed with perplexity 25 and theta 0.5 to visualise the data both within ASAP's own internal visualisation function (Figure 4.5), and also by downloading the data for visualisation using the R-package ggplot2 (Figure 4.6).

Several observations can be made from visual representation of the single-cell data. Firstly, EV-transduced cells demonstrate a distinctive transcriptional signature in their non-differentiated state (corresponding phenotypically to Hoxb8-FL LMPP-like cells) as compared to after 5 days of differentiation in Flt3L, with no overlap between the two conditions. This conforms with the distinct cell surface marker phenotype with upregulated CD11b in differentiated EV cells described in Chapter 3.

Secondly, at Day 2 post-transduction, in conditions which normally maintain Hoxb8-FL cells in a non-differentiated state, it is clear that the *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells form a distinct cluster on t-SNE which is very different to EV cells maintained at Day 2 in Flt3L and estradiol. This correlates with flow cytometry data described in Chapter 3 where the *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells express CD11b and SIRP α even before abolishing estradiol-mediated nuclear translocation of Hoxb8, whereas the EV and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells express no lineage markers in the presence of Flt3L and estradiol. Therefore, expression of *CEBPA* WT pushes Hoxb8-FL cells towards a distinctive transcriptional state.

Thirdly, it becomes difficult to visually distinguish *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells from EV cells by t-SNE after 5 days of differentiation, which again correlates with flow cytometry data. This suggests that the overexpression of human WT *CEBPA* in Hoxb8-FL cells cannot by itself overcome endogenous mechanisms of Flt3L-mediated dendritic cell (DC) differentiation following withdrawal of estradiol.

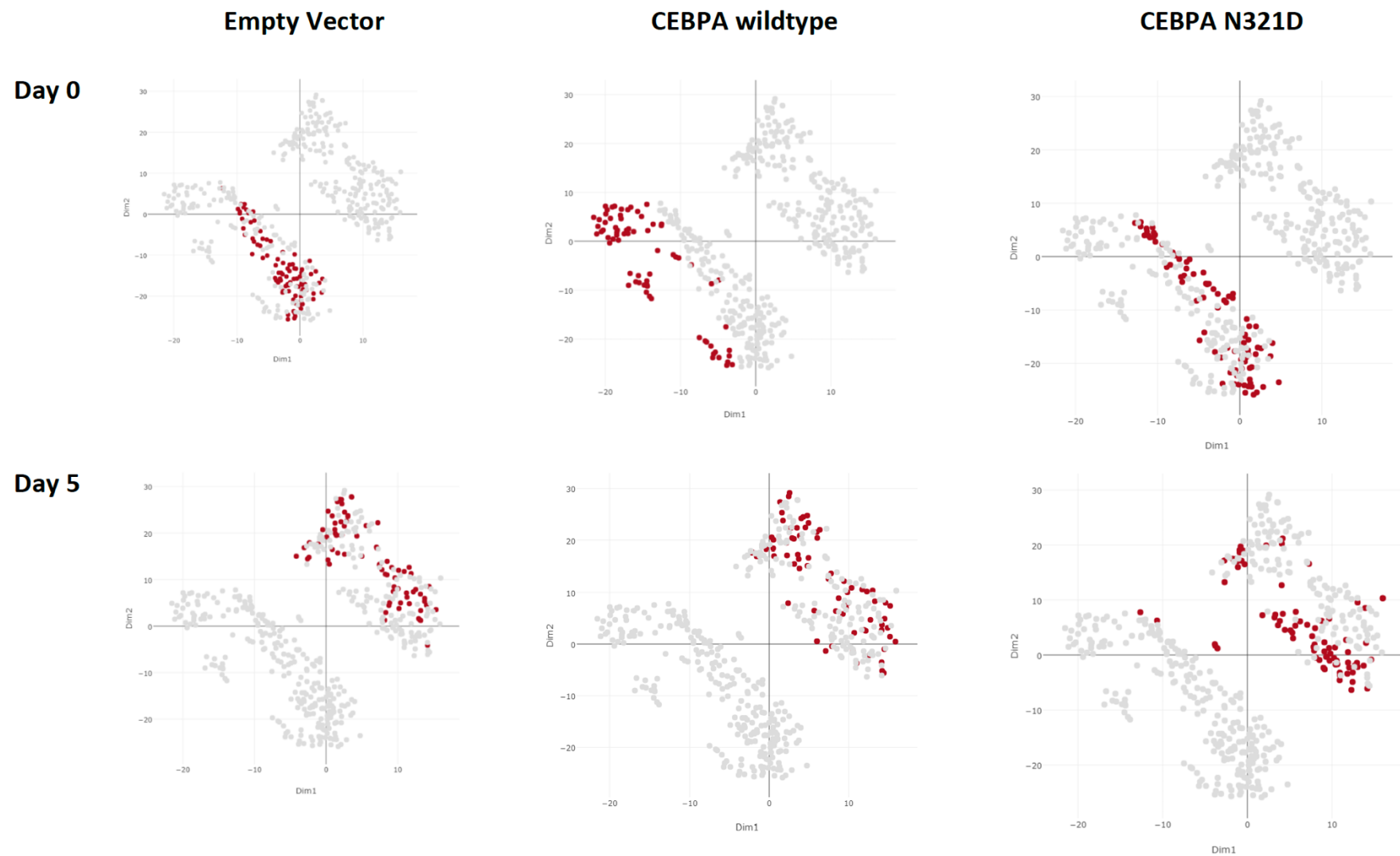


Figure 4.5 ASAP web-based t-SNE visual representation of EV, CEBPA WT and CEBPA N321D-transduced single cells at Days 0 and 5 of differentiation (equivalent to Days 2 and 7 post-transduction)

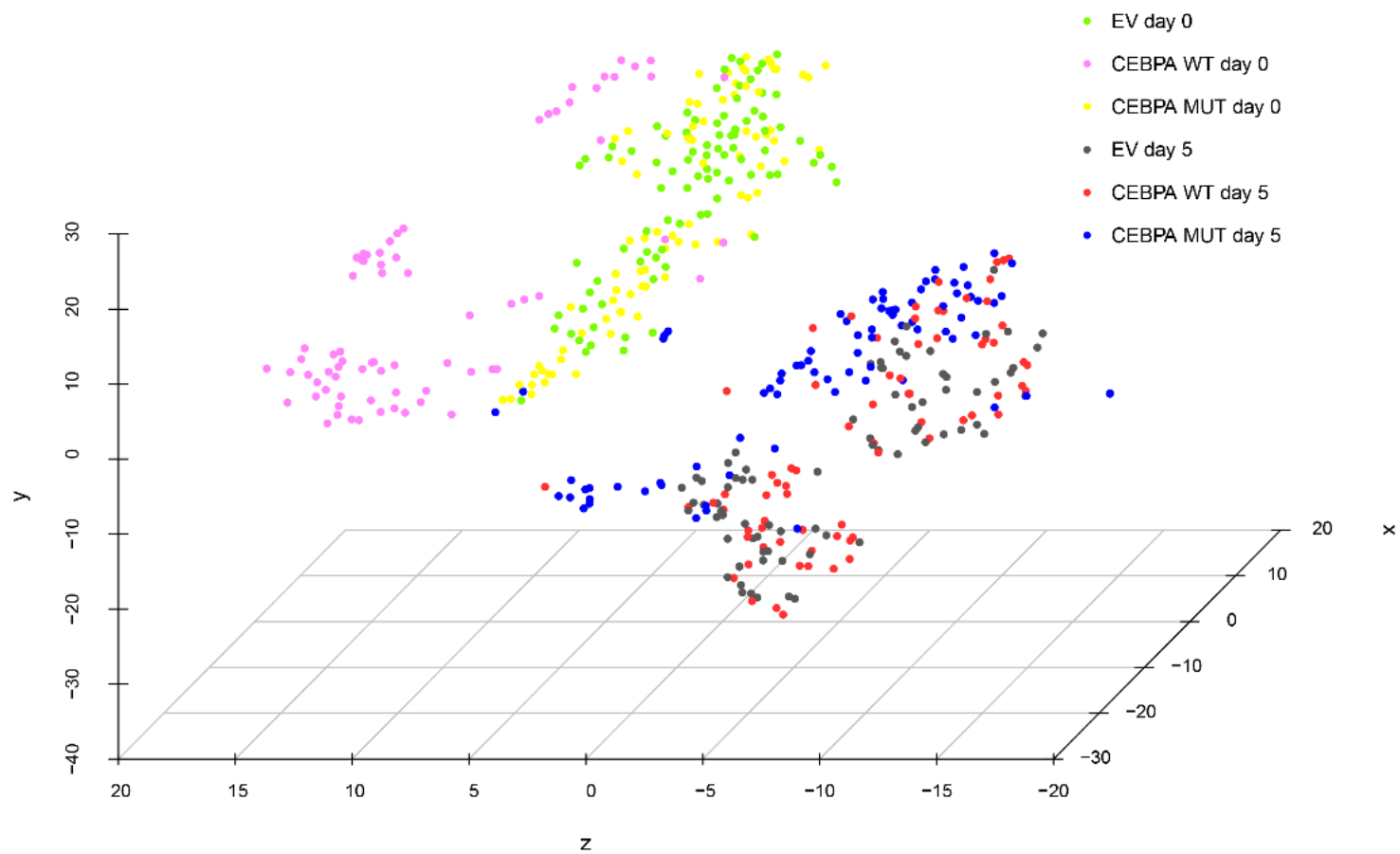


Figure 4.6 ASAP single cell data plotted using ggplot2 for 3D visual representation. Data shows cells at Days 0 and 5 of differentiation

Fourthly, *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells demonstrate a similar transcriptional profile to EV cells in the presence of estradiol, suggesting that *CEBPA* N321D cannot push Hoxb8-FL cells towards the altered transcriptional profile reached by *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells in the presence of nuclear Hoxb8.

Fifthly, *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells diverge from both EV and *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells after 5 days of differentiation in Flt3L, and again this corresponds to their very distinct expression profile on probing with fluorescent-labelled antibodies. Furthermore, following the withdrawal of estradiol, two distinct subpopulations can be identified within the *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cell population, with the majority of cells distributed proximally within the Day 5 differentiated cells, but a much smaller cluster of 5 *CEBPA* N321D-transduced single cells distributed amongst or very close to the Day 0 non-differentiated EV-transduced cells.

In summary, the exogenous expression of *CEBPA* WT pushes LMPP-like cells towards a distinct transcriptional state in the presence of nuclear Hoxb8 but does not interfere with endogenous mechanisms of differentiation when Hoxb8 translocates to the cytoplasm, whereas the exogenous expression of *CEBPA* N321D cannot disrupt Hoxb8 transcriptional effects but is able to alter the endogenous differentiation trajectory of LMPP-like cells in the presence of Flt3L.

4.4.3 The gene expression profiles of Hoxb8-FL cells differentiated in Flt3L correspond to ImmGen gene expression modules for pDCs and a specific cohort of cDCs

Phenotypic data from flow cytometry experiments described in Chapter 3 has demonstrated that EV-transduced Hoxb8-FL cells differentiated in Flt3L express antigens for CD11b and SIRP α but not XCR1 after 5 days of differentiation, suggesting a conventional dendritic cell (cDC) subset which have been variously described as CD8 α ⁻ or type 2 cDCs. However, *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells demonstrate reduced expression of CD11b and SIRP α antigen from Day 5 of differentiation in Flt3L, and gradually take on a CD11c⁺ B220⁺ BST2⁻ pDC precursor-like phenotype. scRNA-seq presents the opportunity to correlate this immunophenotype with gene expression data.

The ImmGen Consortium has employed a multicentre strategy to build a comprehensive gene expression database of murine haematopoiesis, and has defined 334 fine modules of genes

with significant co-expression (<http://www.immgen.org/ModsRegs/modules.html>). The modules F150, F156 and F152 show substantial upregulation in pDCs, cDCs and CD8 α^+ CD103 $^+$ cDCs respectively (Miller *et al*, 2012), and expression profiles for key genes in these modules can be plotted within our single-cell data set:

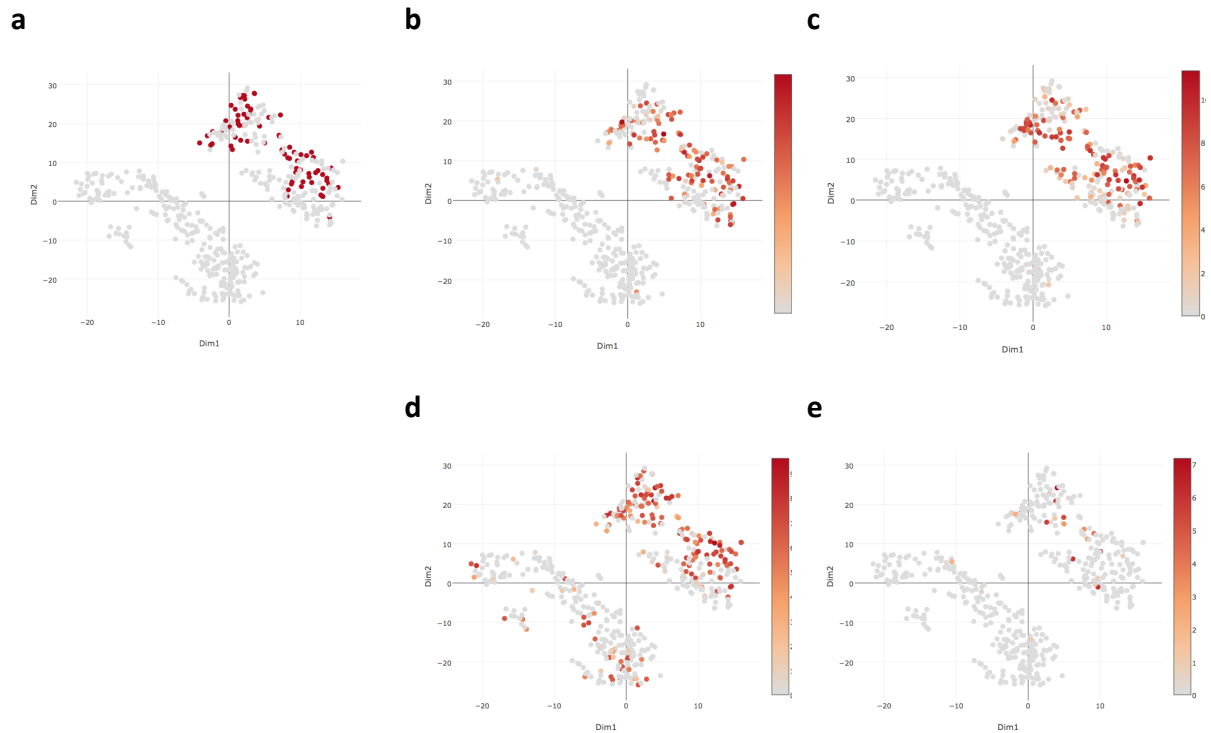


Figure 4.7 Gene expression signatures correlate with DC subtypes. (a) EV-transduced Hoxb8-FL cells after 5 days of differentiation in Flt3L. (b) (c) (d) and (e) show gene expression of cd300c, Siglec-H, Slc46a3 and Tspan33 respectively at Day 5 of differentiation.

CD300c and the canonical pDC gene Siglec-H are both found in module F150 in the ImmGen Consortium database and show convincing gene expression profiles which correlate with EV-transduced Hoxb8-FL cells differentiated in Flt3L. The genes Slc46a3 and Tspan33 are less well-established markers for DC expression but are derived from the ImmGen database F156 module and show some correlation with Day 5 differentiated cells. By contrast, none of the genes in the F152 module are highly expressed in any of the Hoxb8-FL transduced cell lines, confirming our preliminary findings from XCR1 antigen-negativity that CD8 α^+ type 1 cDCs are not generated by the differentiation of Hoxb8-FL cells.

For over 10 years, *IRF8* and *IRF4* expression have been known to distinguish between DC subtypes (Tamura *et al*, 2005). *IRF8* expression is elevated in both pDCs and CD8 α^+ type 1 cDCs, whereas *IRF4* expression has been thought to be elevated in type 2 cDCs. Interestingly, our gene expression data suggests that Hoxb8-parental cells differentiated in Flt3L express *IRF8* and lack expression of *IRF4* (Figure 4.8):

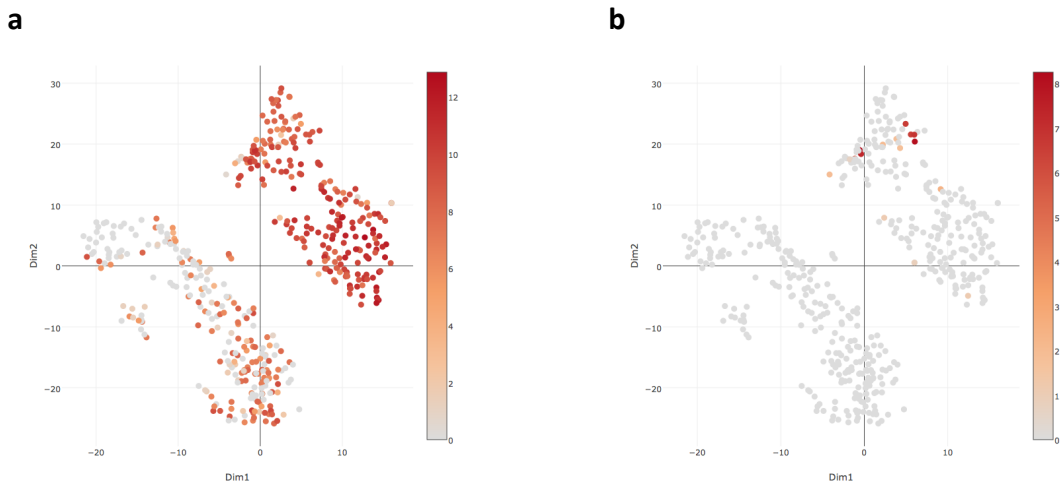


Figure 4.8 ASAP shows (a) *IRF8* and (b) *IRF4* expression of transduced Hoxb8-parental cells after 5 days of differentiation in Flt3L

This seems to contradict our previous findings on flow cytometry that Hoxb8-parental cells in Flt3L differentiate into CD11b $^+$ SIRP α^+ type 2 cDCs. However, it is important to recognise that our understanding of DC lineages and gene expression profiles is rapidly evolving. For instance, recent work has demonstrated that type 2 cDCs in humans are heterogeneous and include a subpopulation of CD5 $^{\text{low}}$ DCs which demonstrate decreased expression of *IRF4* (Yin *et al*, 2017). The co-expression of CD11c, CD11b and SIRP α in both our flow cytometry and our scRNA-seq studies is strongly indicative that transduced Hoxb8 cells exhibit a type 2 cDC phenotype at Day 5 of differentiation, whereas the expression of *IRF8* in the absence of XCR1 suggests the presence of pDCs.

4.4.4 LMPP-like cells transduced with *CEBPA* N321D lose the ability of *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells to overcome Hox-mediated differentiation arrest

Gain-of-function studies with overexpression of Hox genes have indicated that the Hox family of transcription factors expand haematopoietic stem and progenitor cell (HSPC) populations and arrest lineage differentiation programs (Pineault *et al*, 2002, Fischbach *et al*, 2005, Spencer *et al*, 2015, Brunetti *et al*, 2018). Hoxb8-FL parental cells are conditionally

immortalised in Flt3L by estradiol-mediated translocation of Hoxb8 from the cytoplasm to the nucleus where it can bind to and transcribe DNA. Previous work on Hoxb8-FL cells shows that in the presence of Flt3L and estradiol these cells are negative for Gr1, CD11b, B220 and MHC class II (Redecke *et al*, 2013).

Differential expression was performed on cells that passed QC using ASAP's DESeq2 package between *CEBPA* WT and EV-transduced cells at Day 2 post-transduction, with an FDR (adjusted p-value) ≤ 0.05 and a fold change ≥ 2 . It is well-established that *CEBPA* expression is required for granulocyte differentiation at the CMP to GMP junction (Zhang *et al*, 2004). Interestingly, the integration of exogenous human *CEBPA* WT into Hoxb8-FL cells causes a dramatically altered transcriptional profile at an early LMPP-like stage with 636 upregulated and 429 downregulated genes (Appendix, Tables 1 and 3 respectively).

Enrichr (<http://amp.pharm.mssm.edu/Enrichr/>) is an online interactive gene list enrichment analysis tool designed by the Ma'ayan group (Chen *et al*, 2013, Kuleshov *et al*, 2016). Genes differentially upregulated in *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells express both neutrophilic and antigen presentation ontogenies when analysed on Enrichr, for instance GO biological processes are characterised by neutrophil degranulation and neutrophil activation, but also by TLR4 signalling (Appendix, Table 2).

The 636 upregulated genes include genes which are known to play significant roles in granulocyte-monocyte characterisation and function, including *CD33*, *GCA*, *CHIT1*, *LY6C*, *SIRPA*, and *ITGAM* (Ripperger *et al*, 2015). Enrichr analysis of the 429 downregulated genes suggests enrichment in cell ontologies on Mouse gene atlas which include HSCs, MEPs and CMPs (Appendix, Table 4). This confirms that the EV-transduced cells remain in a primitive state in the presence of estradiol, whereas the *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells overcome Hoxb8-mediated differentiation block and progress towards differentiation in the granulocyte lineage. In addition, these results signify that it is difficult to compare the trajectories between Days 2 and 7 of EV or *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells with the trajectory between Days 2 and 7 of *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells, because the *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells start with very different transcriptional and phenotypic profiles at Day 2.

By contrast, the transcriptional signatures of EV and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells are remarkably similar to each other at Day 2 post-transduction before the removal of estradiol, as demonstrated by the low number of genes (15 upregulated and 5 downregulated) differentially expressed by *CEBPA* N321D-transduced single cells versus EV-transduced cells at this time point (see Appendix, Table 5). Unsurprisingly, differential expression of *CEBPA* WT versus *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells at Day 2 gives 745 genes which suggest enrichment for GO biological processes including neutrophil degranulation and 292 downregulated genes which Enrichr analysis correlates with HSPC ontologies. This confirms and further characterises the transcriptional signatures visualised in t-SNE, that exogenous *CEBPA* WT is able to overcome Hoxb8-mediated maturation arrest by downregulating expression of HSPC-associated genes and upregulating genes associated with neutrophil cell ontology, and furthermore that N321D-mutated *CEBPA* cannot replicate these WT transcriptional effects in the presence of Hoxb8 nuclear translocation.

4.4.5 Differential expression identifies genes up and downregulated in EV, *CEBPA* WT and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells during differentiation in Flt3L

Differential expression was then performed on the cells which passed QC using ASAP's DESeq2 package on each cell line between Day 7 and Day 2 post-transduction, with an FDR (adjusted p-value) ≤ 0.05 and a fold change ≥ 2 . The results of differential expression can be found in Table 4.2:

Table 4.2 Differential expression for each cell line during 5 days in differentiation media (Flt3L without estradiol)

	Upregulated genes	Downregulated genes
EV-transduced cells	1400	1340
<i>CEBPA</i> WT-transduced cells	1167	738
<i>CEBPA</i> N321D-transduced cells	594	418

The *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells clearly have the lowest number of upregulated and downregulated genes during 5 days of differentiation. Interestingly, *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells have a lower number of genes differentially expressed than EV-transduced cells, but it should be remembered that flow cytometry and differential expression data indicated evidence of differentiation before the removal of estradiol, and this may account for the more subdued transcriptional trajectory seen after the removal of estradiol.

The altered expression signature in *CEBPA* WT cells at Day 2 post-transduction is also important because these cells start with a different transcriptional status to the EV or *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells, and therefore genes which are differentially expressed in *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells are not directly comparable to genes derived from differential expression of the other subsets.

4.4.6 Gene enrichment suggests pDC gene ontology for *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells differentiated in Flt3L

ASAP has several gene enrichment tools based on its own unique enrichment method which is based on a Fisher Exact Test. By default, it enriches the top 100 genes ranked by fold-change. The following gene enrichment data is acquired by enriching the top 100 upregulated genes identified by differential expression between datasets from *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells at Days 7 and 2 (Table 4.3):

Table 4.3 Gene enrichment of top 100 genes ranked by fold-change provides gene atlas and gene ontology for *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells

Gene Atlas		
Annotation	OR	Adjusted p-value
dendritic_plasmacytoid_B220+	11.59893455	0.000106858
macrophage_peri_LPS_thio_0hrs	5.723928707	0.006772816
RAW_264_7	7.00752457	0.009999595
macrophage_bone_marrow_0hr	7.106759907	0.021267311
macrophage_peri_LPS_thio_1hrs	3.756913022	0.037620484

GO Biological Processes			
Annotation	Description	OR	Adjusted p-value
GO:0002250	adaptive immune response	9.647636039	0.000107661
GO:0019221	cytokine-mediated signalling pathway	9.524060414	0.000595797
GO:0002449	lymphocyte mediated immunity	10.82278481	0.000595797
GO:0006935	chemotaxis	7.013919095	0.000595797
GO:0042330	taxis	6.984405458	0.000595797
GO:0071345	cellular response to cytokine stimulus	7.043805165	0.001256338
GO:0002443	leukocyte mediated immunity	8.290459604	0.002432459
GO:0048002	antigen processing and presentation of peptide antigen	22.77316161	0.002960939
GO:0009615	response to virus	7.37755102	0.013946116
GO:0060326	cell chemotaxis	8.471471471	0.016538952
GO:0002495	antigen processing and presentation of peptide antigen via MHC class II	48.45882353	0.021975521

GO:0050778	positive regulation of immune response	5.779032018	0.021975521
GO:0002504	antigen processing and presentation of peptide or polysaccharide antigen via MHC class II	45.60622837	0.022476632
GO:0030595	leukocyte chemotaxis	9.50174216	0.022476632
GO:1903708	positive regulation of haemopoiesis	9.225010574	0.024244182
GO:0019882	antigen processing and presentation	12.31674361	0.024244182
GO:0051607	defense response to virus	7.220702754	0.025565976
GO:0050900	leukocyte migration	7.137351547	0.025883188
GO:0002573	myeloid leukocyte differentiation	8.6218853	0.027668663
GO:0002478	antigen processing and presentation of exogenous peptide antigen	32.29411765	0.037621686

GO Molecular Functions			
Annotation	Description	OR	Adjusted p-value
GO:0004896	cytokine receptor activity	27.61865086	2.50E-06
GO:0042287	MHC protein binding	73.19444444	1.68E-05
GO:0019955	cytokine binding	20.93680556	4.78E-05

Interestingly in the context of *CEBPA*'s role in myeloid differentiation, myeloid leukocyte differentiation is identified as one of the biological processes in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells after 5 days of differentiation in Flt3L. Nevertheless, ASAP's gene enrichment tools all coincide to suggest a cell ontology which is characterised by mechanisms of the adaptive immune response such as cytokine binding and antigen presentation. Gene Atlas annotation suggests that these cells correlate with the gene expression profiles of B220⁺ pDCs. Therefore it appears that the *CEBPA* N321D mutation switches on a pDC transcriptional program in Hoxb8-FL cells as early as Day 5 of differentiation in Flt3L, although phenotypic cell surface markers cannot be detected by flow cytometry until much later.

Genes of particular interest are the genes up and downregulated during differentiation (between Days 7 and 2 post-transduction) of *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells, which are not identified during differentiation of EV-transduced cells. Bearing in mind that the *CEBPA* WT trajectory is not directly comparable to the trajectories of EV or *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells during differentiation in Flt3L, for reasons aforementioned, these genes of interest should not take into consideration genes differentially expressed in *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells between Days 7 and 2. Differentially expressed genes can be intersected by using the online tool <http://bioinformatics.psb.ugent.be/webtools/Venn> (Figure 4.9):

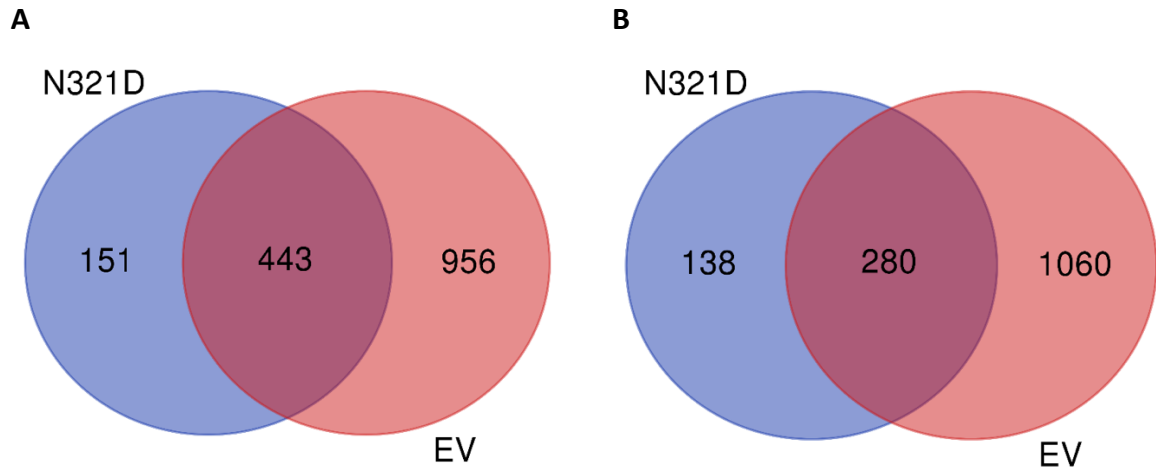


Figure 4.9 Number of genes differentially expressed for cell lines differentiated for 5 days in Flt3L, and not taking into consideration genes differentially expressed in *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells. (A) Upregulated genes, (B) Downregulated genes. (Appendix, Tables 6 and 7 respectively).

ASAP's gene enrichment tools allow only global gene set analysis based on differential expression between defined clusters of cells. Furthermore, it does not provide the identities of specific genes. Therefore, web-based Enrichr gene set enrichment analysis was performed on the 151 genes identified as differentially upregulated exclusively in the *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells. Enrichr calculates a Combined Score by taking the log of the p-value from the Fisher Exact Test and multiplying it by the z-score of the deviation from the expected rank:

Table 4.4 Enrichr calculates Combined Score and identifies upregulated genes which overlap with top ten entries in Mouse Gene Atlas after differential expression analysis of *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells at Day 7 v Day 2

Term	Combined Score	Genes
NK_cells	10.16681656	C330007P06RIK;NOTCH1;NUP210;OSBPL3;GAB3;LNPEP;TM6SF1;SSH2;ZEB2;1700025G04RIK;KLRB1C;BCL2;FAM65B;FYN
dendritic_plasmacytoid_B220+	6.233181251	SLC44A1;TRAPPC5;MGAT1;FNDC3A;IFFO1;RUNX2;RAB33B
mast_cells_IgE+antigen_1hr	3.279761749	D8ERTD82E;GFOD1;CD93;SLC44A1
Baf3	2.537389426	FBXW4;EGFL7;BCL2;2310001H17RIK;CLEC2I;CBFA2T3;OCEL1
macrophage_bone_marrow_0hr	2.523596016	DGKD;CD93;TM6SF1;DUSP7
dendritic_cells_myeloid_CD8a-	2.451664086	TIFAB;TRAPPC5;BMF;CBFA2T3
mammary_gland_non-lactating	2.133937578	MYLPF;TPM2;SGCG
follicular_B-cells	1.916955745	MEF2C;SNX29;DGKD;FAM65B;FAM76B;RPRD2;AVL9;TRPC4AP;FLI1;D930015E06RIK;CMAH
granulo_mono_progenitor	1.370213386	TIFAB;KCNK12
mast_cells	1.284288746	IVNS1ABP;SCIN;BCL2;GAB3;SERINC3;CBFA2T3;FLI1

This analysis confirms a pDC cell ontology in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells differentiated for 5 days in Flt3L, and identifies 5 upregulated genes which are associated with the pDC phenotype: *SLC44A1*, *TRAPPC5*, *MGAT1*, *FNDC3A*, *IFFO1*, *RUNX2*, and *RAB33B*. Interestingly, it also suggests that differentiation of *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells upregulates genes (*TIFAB* and *KCNK12*) associated with GMP cell ontology.

4.4.7 Gene enrichment suggests that Empty Vector and *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells have gene ontologies which are distinct from *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells differentiated in Flt3L

Enrichr analysis of the 956 genes exclusively upregulated in EV-transduced cells during differentiation in Flt3L suggests a distinct gene ontology:

Table 4.5 Enrichr calculates Combined Score to identify upregulated genes which overlap with top ten entries in Mouse Gene Atlas after differential expression analysis of EV-transduced cells at Day 7 v Day 2

Term	Combined Score	Genes
macrophage_peri_LPS_thio_7hrs	113.42	134
dendritic_cells_myeloid_CD8a-	15.67	32
macrophage_peri_LPS_thio_0hrs	14.73	56
follicular_B-cells	9.52	58
macrophage_bone_marrow_6hr_LPS	9.25	80
macrophage_peri_LPS_thio_1hrs	7.85	59
macrophage_bone_marrow_24h_LPS	7.63	58
macrophage_bone_marrow_0hr	6.97	31
macrophage_bone_marrow_2hr_LPS	4.44	45
dendritic_cells_lymphoid_CD8a+	4.27	22

Furthermore, a direct comparison between cell ontologies on Mouse Gene Atlas of genes downregulated exclusively during differentiation of EV and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cell lines in Flt3L demonstrates distinct differential expression signatures (Table 4.6).

Table 4.6 Enrichr identifies Mouse Gene Atlas cell ontologies with Combined Scores for downregulated genes after differential expression analysis of EV and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells at Day 7 v Day 2

Empty Vector-transduced cells		<i>CEBPA</i> N321D-transduced cells	
Term	Combined Score	Term	Combined Score
embryonic_stem_line_V26_2_p16	13.79	mast_cells_IgE+antigen_1hr	5.82
embryonic_stem_line_Bruce4_p13	11.62	thymocyte_SP_CD4+	3.04
mega_erythrocyte_progenitor	9.65	bone_marrow	2.89
Baf3	6.01	bladder	2.46
stem_cells_HSC	4.02	macrophage_peri_LPS_thio_0hrs	2.41
nih_3T3	2.99	embryonic_stem_line_Bruce4_p13	2.36
common_myeloid_progenitor	1.73	mast_cells	1.71
granulo_mono_progenitor	1.05	mega_erythrocyte_progenitor	1.62
mIMCD-3	0.43	macrophage_peri_LPS_thio_1hrs	1.58
adipose_brown	0.32	mast_cells_IgE+antigen_6hr	1.45

Genes up and downregulated during differentiation of *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells in Flt3L should be considered separately from gene sets identified in EV and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells, as their differentiation trajectories start from a different transcriptional state at Day 2 post-transduction. Gene set enrichment analysis by Enrichr of 1167 upregulated and 738 downregulated genes identified by differential expression analysis of *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells at Days 7 and 2 in Flt3L demonstrate the following cell ontologies in Mouse Gene Atlas:

Table 4.7 Enrichr identifies Mouse Gene Atlas cell ontologies with Combined Scores for up and downregulated genes identified by differential expression analysis *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells at Day 7 v Day 2

Upregulated genes		Downregulated genes	
Term	Combined Score	Term	Combined Score
macrophage_peri_LPS_thio_7hrs	113.65	adipose_brown	8.38
follicular_B-cells	23.03	bone	8.01
macrophage_bone_marrow_6hr_LPS	17.12	stem_cells_HSC	6.2
dendritic_cells_myeloid_CD8a-	16.56	bone_marrow	4.41
macrophage_bone_marrow_0hr	14.85	macrophage_bone_marrow_24h_LPS	3.36
macrophage_peri_LPS_thio_0hrs	12.28	granulo_mono_progenitor	2.64
macrophage_peri_LPS_thio_1hrs	9.46	granulocytes_mac1+gr1+	1.87
dendritic_plasmacytoid_B220+	9.2	3T3-L1	1.76
macrophage_bone_marrow_2hr_LPS	5.38	Baf3	1.24
RAW_264_7	4.26	uterus	1.22

In summary, gene set enrichment analysis for upregulated genes differentially expressed during differentiation of EV-transduced cells in Flt3L gives cell ontologies which differ markedly from *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells (Table 4.4), with prominence of cDC type 2 cell ontology and the exclusion of B220⁺ pDC cells from the top ten statistically significant cell ontologies (Table 4.5). Gene enrichment analysis from differential expression of *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells needs to be interpreted with more caution because their differentiation trajectory starts from a distinct transcriptional state, but upregulated genes demonstrate a similar cell ontology to EV-transduced cells, and genes associated with myeloid CD8 α - DCs have higher statistical significance than genes associated with B220⁺ pDCs (Table 4.7). Perhaps more significantly from the perspective of the leukaemic phenotype demonstrated by the *CEBPA* N321D mutation *in vivo*, the *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells fail to downregulate gene sets associated with HSPC cell ontology which are downregulated by both EV (Table 4.6) and *CEBPA* WT (Table 4.7) -transduced cells.

4.4.8 Intersection of differentially expressed genes in N321D and EV subsets suggests transcriptional reprogramming activated by mutated *CEBPA*

Phenotypically, EV-transduced cells proceed rapidly to terminal differentiation whereas *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells do not acquire features of terminal differentiation and can be cultured for long periods of time in the presence of only Flt3L. It would therefore be useful to identify genes which are upregulated exclusively in EV-transduced cells after 5 days of differentiation in Flt3L (956 genes) and intersect those genes with the 633 genes which are downregulated on differential expression between *CEBPA* N321D and EV-transduced cells at Day 7. This would provide us with a list of genes that characterise the differentiation of EV cells and which fail to be upregulated in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells.

Remembering that EV-transduced cells represent the normal pattern of differentiation and lineage restriction by LMPP-like Hoxb8-FL cells, it is also useful to identify the 1060 genes downregulated exclusively in EV cells during differentiation in Flt3L and intersect them with the 224 genes which are upregulated on differential expression between *CEBPA* N321D and EV-transduced cells at Day 5.

By intersecting these data subsets, we are able to construct a list of 385 EV differentiation genes which are switched off by *CEBPA* N321D-transduction (Appendix, Table 8), and

alternatively a list of 133 genes switched off in differentiated EV-transduced cells which are switched on by *CEBPA* N321D-transduction (Appendix, Table 8). These two gene sets can then be analysed by Enrichr:

Table 4.8 Enrichr identifies Mouse Gene Atlas cell ontologies with Combined Scores for genes “switched on” and “switched off” after intersection of gene subsets extracted from differential expression of *CEBPA* N321D and EV-transduced cells

Switched on genes		Switched off genes	
Term	Combined Score	Term	Combined Score
placenta	3.04	macrophage_peri_LPS_thio_7hrs	77.87
common_myeloid_progenitor	2.47	macrophage_bone_marrow_6hr_LPS	24.95
mega_erythrocyte_progenitor	2.18	macrophage_peri_LPS_thio_1hrs	15.05
Baf3	2.1	macrophage_bone_marrow_0hr	11.91
stem_cells_HSC	1.58	dendritic_cells_myeloid_CD8a-	7.79
thymocyte_SP_CD4+	1.5	follicular_B-cells	5.31
mast_cells	1.13	macrophage_bone_marrow_24h_LPS	4.64
nih_3T3	0.92	microglia	4.5
osteoblast_day21	0.72	osteoclasts	3.67
osteoblast_day14	0.6	macrophage_peri_LPS_thio_0hrs	3.48

Enrichr cell ontology of *CEBPA* N321D-mediated “switched off” genes (Table 4.8) suggests that mutant *CEBPA* dedifferentiates macrophages and myeloid dendritic cell or cDC ontology, but not pDC ontology. Interestingly, some of these genes encode known partner TFs of wildtype C/EBP α such as *C-FOS* and *C-JUN* (Hong *et al*, 2011). By contrast, “switched on” genes include *CDK6* and give cell ontology of HSCs, MEPs and CMPs on Enrichr.

Essentially, *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells differentiated at Day 5 in the presence of Flt3L seem to “switch on” or fail to switch off a HSPC transcriptional program. Ideally this intersectional analysis should include *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells to demonstrate that these two transcriptional programs are derived specifically from the N321D mutation rather than from overexpression of *CEBPA* WT, but this is difficult due to the altered transcriptional state of *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells at Day 2 post-transduction. However, phenotypic features of *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells, including cell growth and cell surface markers, strongly suggest that the HSPC transcriptional program is specific to the N321D mutation.

4.4.9 A small subset of *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells demonstrate a divergent transcriptional signature on differential expression against EV-transduced cells

t-SNE visualisation of single-cell expression profiles reveals that the majority of the *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells cluster proximal to the Day 5 differentiated EV and *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells after five days of differentiation in Flt3L. The most significant finding on the level of the single cell is that a rare subpopulation of 5 *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells diverge from the Day 5 differentiated populations entirely and cluster with the Day 0 non-differentiated populations:

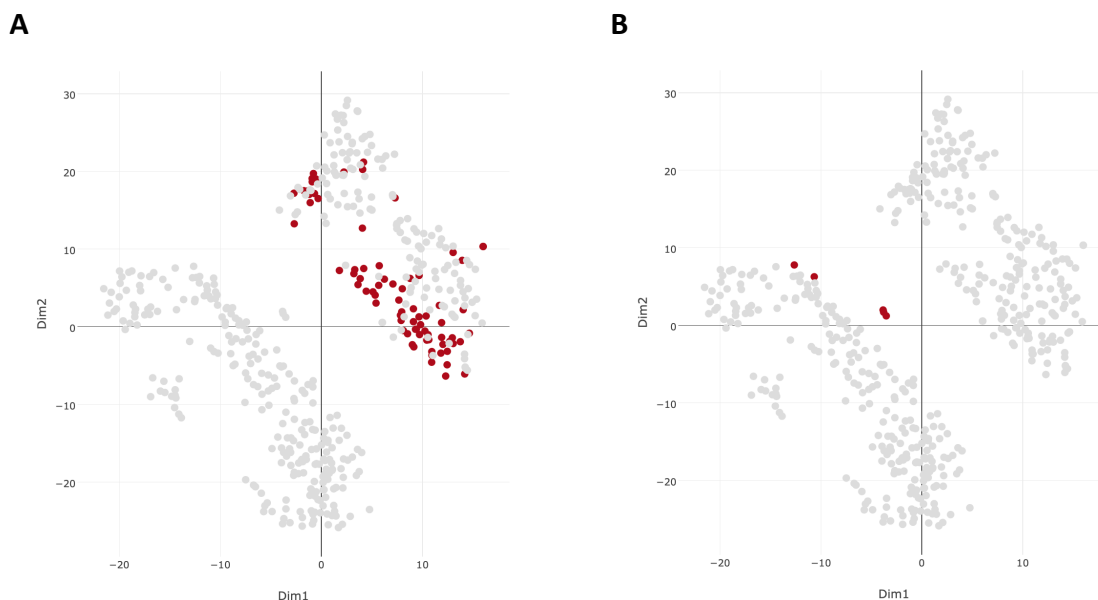


Figure 4.10 ASAP shows two cohorts of *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells after differentiation for 5 days in Flt3L. (A) 78 single cells which are distributed proximally but close to EV and WT-transduced cells differentiated in Flt3L, and (B) 5 single cells which diverge from Day 5 populations and cluster close to the Day 0 non-differentiated populations

Differential expression with DESeq2 confirms that the two cohorts of *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells differentiated at Day 5 express divergent transcriptional signatures. Genes upregulated and downregulated in the 78 and 5 cells were identified by applying DESeq2 separately to cells from each cohort against the 82 *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells at Day 0. The differentially expressed genes were then intersected with genes differentially expressed between EV-transduced cells at Days 5 and 0 (Figure 4.11):

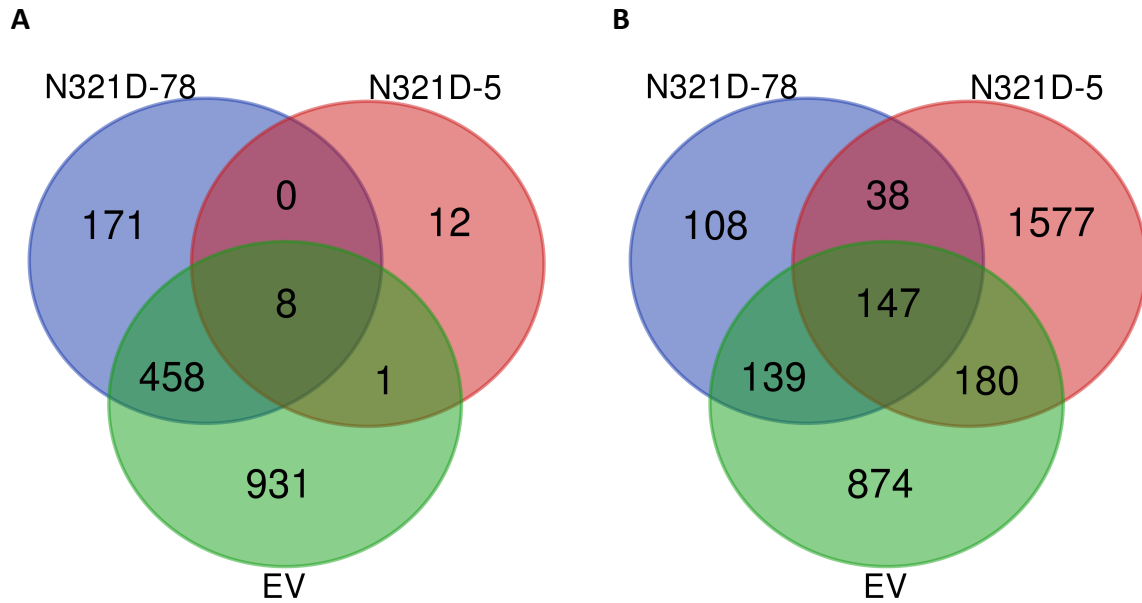


Figure 4.11 Number of genes differentially expressed between Day 5 versus Day 0 for two cohorts of 78 and 5 *CEBPA* N321D-transduced and all EV-transduced single cells differentiated in Flt3L, and not taking into consideration genes differentially expressed in *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells. (A) Upregulated genes, (B) Downregulated genes. See Appendix Tables 9 and 10 for full lists of genes.

Enrichr analysis was then performed for genes which were upregulated (171 and 12) and downregulated (108 and 1577) respectively in the 78 (Table 4.9) and 5 (Table 4.10) single *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells:

Table 4.9 Enrichr identifies Mouse Gene Atlas cell ontologies with Combined Scores for up and downregulated genes identified by differential expression analysis of 78 *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells at Day 7 v all 82 *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells at Day 2, excluding genes differentially expressed in EV-transduced cells between the same time points

Upregulated genes (171)		Downregulated genes (108)	
Term	Combined Score	Term	Combined Score
follicular_B-cells	6.90	mast_cells_IgE+antigen_1hr	5.10
NK_cells	6.34	embryonic_stem_line_Bruce4_p13	3.17
dendritic_plasmacytoid_B220+	3.54	stem_cells_HSC	2.11
mast_cells_IgE+antigen_1hr	2.62	thymocyte_SP_CD4+	1.98
osteoblast_day5	2.13	macrophage_peri_LPS_thio_7hrs	1.89
macrophage_bone_marrow_0hr	2.05	embryonic_stem_line_V26_2_p16	1.78
dendritic_cells_myeloid_CD8a-	1.97	B-cells_GL7_positive_KLH	1.77
Baf3	1.78	lens	1.74
mammary_gland_non-lactating	1.70	mega_erythrocyte_progenitor	1.65
mast_cells	1.68	bladder	1.52

Table 4.10 Enrichr identifies Mouse Gene Atlas cell ontologies with Combined Scores for up and downregulated genes identified by differential expression analysis of 5 *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells at Day 7 v all 82 *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells at Day 2, excluding genes differentially expressed in EV-transduced cells between the same time points

Upregulated genes (12)		Downregulated genes (1577)	
Term	Combined Score	Term	Combined Score
microglia	3.27	bone_marrow	1.43
macrophage_peri_LPS_thio_0hrs	0.00	follicular_B-cells	1.41
macrophage_bone_marrow_24h_LPS	0.00	macrophage_peri_LPS_thio_0hrs	0.84
		adipose_brown	0.81
		B-cells_GL7_positive_Alum	0.69
		B-cells_GL7_positive_KLH	0.60
		mast_cells	0.50
		B-cells_GL7negative_Alum	0.50
		mast_cells_IgE	0.45
		spleen	0.38

The 78 single *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells which cluster within the proximal aspect of the Day 5 differentiated cells upregulate genes which enrich for mononuclear phagocyte cell ontologies including pDCs, cDCs, macrophages and mast cells, and downregulate genes which enrich for HSC ontologies. By contrast, the 5 single cells which diverge from the Day 5 differentiated cell populations do not display this transcriptional signature. In fact, the 5 single cells upregulate only 12 genes compared to the Day 0 cells, after excluding genes upregulated by EV during differentiation (Figure 4.11). Interestingly, although they downregulate 1577 genes, the low Combined Scores of enriched cell ontologies associated with those 1577 genes (Table 4.10) suggests that the enriched gene sets are relatively non-specific.

Experimentally, the small cluster of 5 single cells all originate from one single plate which raises questions of bias from a plate effect, however the majority of *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells from the same plate cluster with cells from other plates. Bearing in mind that the Day 0 Hoxb8-FL cells, in the presence of Flt3L and estradiol-mediated Hoxb8 DNA-binding, are conditionally immortalised and capable of exponential growth, one can hypothesise that it is in fact the rare smaller population of 5 *CEBPA* N321D-transduced single cells which are immortalised when estradiol is withdrawn and enjoy a selective survival advantage. This would account for the gradual evolution of the cell surface marker profile of the mutant cells

from an initial obvious reduction in CD11b and SIRP α expression to a CD11c⁺ B220⁺ cell line characterised by exponential growth.

4.4.10 Validation of ASAP gene expression data using geometric size factor normalisation and ggplot2

To validate gene expression data from ASAP, it was decided to use the function `estimateSizeFactorsForMatrix` (R version 3.5.2, DESeq2 version 1.22.2) on genomic data for cells which passed QC. GFP expression data was specifically removed before calculating size factor as it would skew normalisation. Size factors were then applied to raw counts to normalise them, before log transforming the results and filtering out zero counts. The R-package `ggplot2` version 3.1.0 was then employed to construct violin plots and compare gene expression data for EV, *CEBPA* WT and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced conditions at Days 2 and 7:

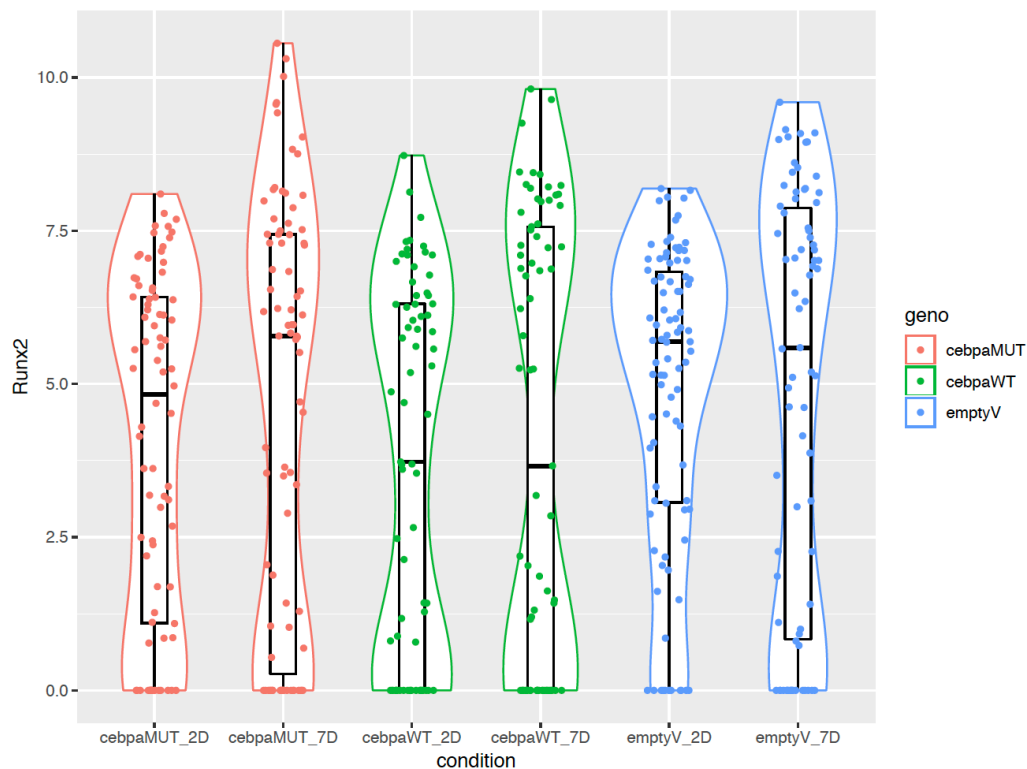


Figure 4.12 Violin plot showing normalised counts for *RUNX2* in all cells which passed QC

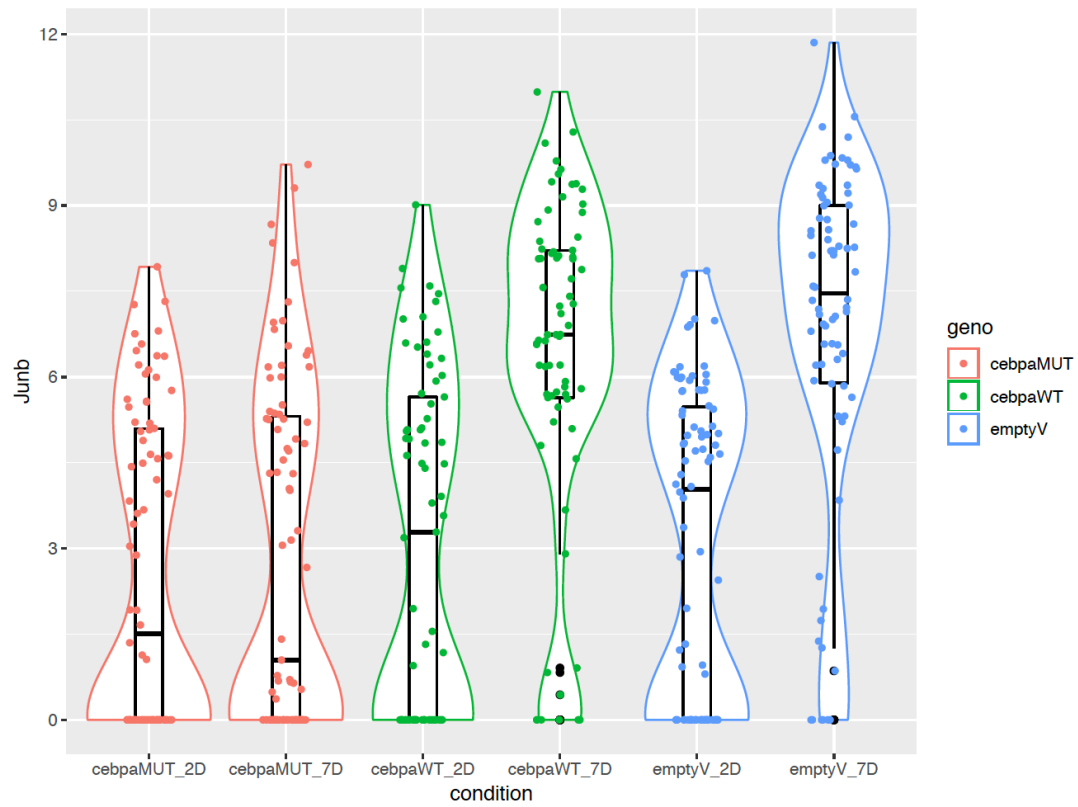


Figure 4.13 Violin plot showing normalised counts for *JUNB* in all cells which passed QC

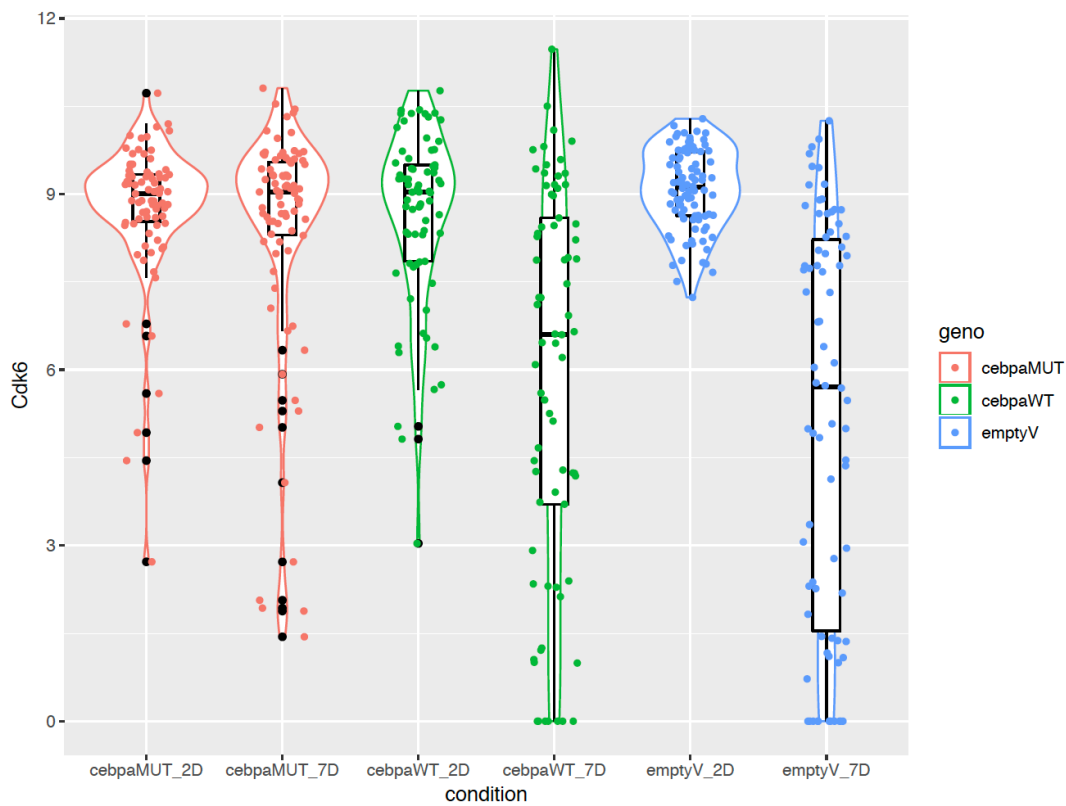


Figure 4.14 Violin plot showing normalised counts for *CDK6* in all cells which passed QC

These violin plots provide convincing visual validation that *RUNX2* is upregulated exclusively in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells, that *CEBPA* N321D “switches off” genes associated with macrophage programs such as *JUNB*, and that it “switches on” genes including *CDK6* which give cell ontology of early haematopoietic precursors.

4.5 Discussion

My cellular model is designed to evaluate early pre-leukaemic changes induced by the *CEBPA* N321D mutation, by employing Hoxb8-FL cells which are phenotypically similar to LMPP cells and therefore present an opportunity to characterise *CEBPA*-mutated cells before the CMP to GMP junction where *CEBPA* is known to be highly expressed.

The original rationale for examining *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells was to provide a comparator to exclude effects from over-expression of *CEBPA*, such that genes dysregulated exclusively by *CEBPA* mutation can be identified. This comparison was complicated by the fact that *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells transition into a distinct transcriptional state in Hoxb8-FL conditions. The rationale for performing the single-cell experiment was that it enables the identification of rare cell populations and cell-to-cell variations, which are important when studying early haematopoiesis or pre-leukaemic transcriptional signatures. To our knowledge, the gene expression signature of *CEBPA*-mutated cells has never previously been evaluated at the level of the single cell.

4.5.1 Role of C/EBP α in myeloid differentiation and DC biology, and the single-cell expression profile of *CEBPA* WT-transduced Hoxb8-FL cells in conditions which favour immortalisation

C/EBP α plays a key role in myeloid differentiation, and is able to cause growth arrest and myeloid differentiation when lentivirally inserted into CD34⁺ AML cells (Schepers *et al*, 2007). It is expressed at a low level in HSCs, incrementing at the stage of pre-GPs or CMPs, and then increasing markedly in GMPs (Zhang *et al*, 2004).

The role of C/EBP α in HSC biology is complex, with the Tenen group reporting that deletion of C/EBP α increases HSC proliferation and promotes HSC expansion through an N-Myc mechanism (Ye *et al*, 2013). By contrast, the Porse group found that loss of C/EBP α resulted

in HSC exhaustion and a marked reduction of haematopoietic reconstitution after competitive transplantation into lethally irradiated recipient mice (Hasemann *et al*, 2014). The apparent contradiction in these findings may relate to the timing of C/EBP α excision in these two experimental models, and it is possible to integrate these apparently divergent results by hypothesising early HSC expansion followed by HSC exhaustion and loss of self-renewal.

Regarding lineage restriction, initial studies suggested that C/EBP α was required for the transition from CMPs to GMPs, based on the observation that Sca-1⁺ progenitor cells accumulated in adult *CEBPA*^{-/-} mice (Zhang *et al*, 2004, Hasemann *et al*, 2014). However, gene expression data has recently mapped *CEBPA*^{-/-} pre-GMP cells more closely to LSK cells, suggesting that the maturation block caused by *CEBPA* deletion lies just downstream of LSK cells when Sca-1 expression is downregulated (Pundhir *et al*, 2018).

Both HSC self-renewal (Hasemann *et al*, 2014) and myeloid differentiation are mediated by C/EBP α acting in partnership with other TFs including PU.1, RUNX1 and IRF8. In particular, PU.1 and C/EBP α have been characterised as master regulators of monopoiesis and granulopoiesis respectively with the PU.1: C/EBP α ratio instructing lineage specification (Dahl *et al*, 2003). C/EBP α interacts physically with PU.1 at DNA binding domain (DBD) locations, displacing the PU.1 co-activator C-JUN, and functionally C/EBP α blocks PU.1-induced DC development (Reddy *et al*, 2002). However, C/EBP α also acts cooperatively with PU.1, mediating chromatin accessibility at myeloid-specific enhancers (Heinz *et al*, 2010). Deletion of the *CEBPA* +37 kb enhancer in mouse models gives phenotypic effects which are identical to *CEBPA* knock-out (Avellino *et al*, 2016, Guo *et al*, 2016) whereas deletion of the -14 kb enhancer of the *SPI1* locus causes significant reduction in *SPI1* expression (Rosenbauer *et al*, 2004). Interestingly, C/EBP α can induce monocyte lineage commitment by binding at the same -14 kb enhancer, suggesting that *SPI1* expression is C/EBP α -dependent (Yeaman *et al*, 2007). More recently, the coordination of granulocyte monocyte (GM) enhancer activity by C/EBP α :PU.1 interplay during successive stages of GM-lineage differentiation (LSK, preGM, GMP, and neutrophilic granulocyte populations) has been analysed through integration of genome-wide chromatin accessibility profiles, ChIP-seq at different stages of maturation, and functional studies of preGM-KO cells from *CEBPA*^{-/-} mice. These analyses suggest a more active role for C/EBP α than previously thought, acting as a pioneer factor for PU.1 at later stages of GM-lineage differentiation (Pundhir *et al*, 2018).

Furthermore, RUNX1 binds to the *CEBPA* promoter and regulates the +37 kb enhancer to favour granulopoiesis (Cooper *et al*, 2015), and *RUNX1* deletion favours monopoiesis over granulopoiesis by reducing *CEBPA* transcription (Guo *et al*, 2012). By contrast, IRF8 physically interacts with C/EBP α via its DBD, blocks C/EBP α from binding to chromatin, and inhibits neutrophil differentiation (Kurotaki *et al*, 2014). IRF8 also forms a heterodimer with PU.1 which activates an enhancer signature to promote monocyte and DC differentiation (Kurotaki *et al*, 2013). In line with these findings, *IRF8*^{-/-} mice demonstrate absent monopoiesis and aberrant over-production of neutrophils (Kurotaki *et al*, 2014). Besides these direct physical interactions with partner TFs, C/EBP α can exert indirect effects, for instance it favours neutrophil differentiation by inducing microRNA-30c which in turn downregulates *NOTCH1* (Katznerke *et al*, 2013).

In addition to its pivotal role in granulocyte differentiation, C/EBP α plays a significant role in commitment to mononuclear phagocyte lineages. In this regard, studies have demonstrated that C/EBP α and PU.1 act both synergistically and antagonistically in a cell type-specific manner. For instance, C/EBP α synergises with PU.1 to reprogram differentiated B cells into macrophages (Xie *et al*, 2004). By contrast, fully-committed pre-T cells can be reprogrammed by C/EBP α and PU.1 acting antagonistically, with C/EBP α expression converting them to macrophages and PU.1 inducing them to form myeloid DCs (Laiosa *et al*, 2006).

Interestingly, the Graf group found that NOTCH1 partially inhibited and completely inhibited C/EBP α -mediated and PU.1-mediated T cell reprogramming respectively, and suggested that C/EBP α inhibits the ability of NOTCH1 to inhibit PU.1 (Laiosa *et al*, 2006). In DC progenitor cells, Carotta *et al* showed that DC differentiation cannot be induced in Flt3L cytokine conditions when PU.1 is conditionally ablated. This was partially explained by their finding that PU.1 directly controls FLT3 gene expression in DC progenitors, although enforced Flt3 expression in PU.1-deficient progenitors was unable to rescue DC differentiation (Carotta *et al*, 2010).

Regarding DC biology, the Tenen group found that C/EBP α is required for early DC differentiation both *in vitro* and *in vivo* in a transplantation model, although C/EBP α excision did not affect cytokine profiles or phagocytic function of mature DCs (Welner *et al*, 2013). In

addition, microarray of C/EBP α -deficient and wildtype DC progenitors identified gene expression changes for TFs known to be essential for DC differentiation, and ChIP-seq for C/EBP α on sorted DC progenitors confirmed direct binding of C/EBP α to associated regulatory elements (Welner *et al*, 2013). Recent single-cell studies of 5000 human CD34⁺ cord blood cells have demonstrated that DC lineage bias starts from HSCs and is defined by transcriptional programs which correlate with IRF8:PU.1 ratios (Lee *et al*, 2017). This single-cell analysis did not elucidate the role of C/EBP α in IRF8-mediated transcriptional programs during early lineage bias, but given that C/EBP α expression mediates HSC self-renewal (Hasemann *et al*, 2014), that IRF8 interacts with C/EBP α in monocyte-DC progenitors to prevent neutrophil differentiation (Kurotaki *et al*, 2018), and the known transcriptional wiring between C/EBP α , PU.1 and IRF8 (Kurotaki *et al*, 2014), one can speculate that C/EBP α is involved in early DC lineage specification in HSCs.

In our cellular model, *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells co-express exogenous human WT *CEBPA* with endogenous bi-allelic murine WT *CEBPA*. This does not mimic physiological *CEBPA* expression but it does provide us with a comparator for transduction of human mutated *CEBPA*. Visualisation of scRNA-seq data with t-SNE reveals a distinct spatial distribution of *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells at Day 0 which corresponds with the distinct cell surface marker profile previously identified on flow cytometry. Single-cell analysis demonstrates that *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells are transcriptionally divergent from both EV and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells within 48 hours of transduction in the presence of nuclear Hoxb8-mediated DNA-binding. Gene expression signatures of *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells suggest ontology of granulocytes, with differentially expressed genes suggesting a GMP phenotype. Exogenous wildtype *CEBPA* is able to overcome Hoxb8 transcriptional effects and Flt3L cytokine effects, promoting both differentiation and neutrophil specification. Previous work by the Friedman group and others has shown that transcription factor ratios for C/EBP α play an important role in cell fate decisions of haematopoietic progenitors (Ma *et al*, 2014). The biological relevance of TF ratios is confirmed by our experiments which show a phenotype in *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells which is distinct from the phenotype exhibited by endogenous *CEBPA* expression.

Differential expression permits some interesting observations. *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells show expression patterns associated with lineage specification. For instance, *GFI1* is

upregulated suggesting lineage bias towards neutrophil differentiation (Karsunky *et al*, 2002, Hock *et al*, 2003). Similarly, the upregulated gene *IDH1* is known to promote myelopoiesis when overexpressed and block myeloid differentiation with knockdown in a zebrafish model (Shi *et al*, 2015). Several other genes associated with myeloid differentiation are upregulated by *CEBPA* WT at Day 2 post-transduction, including *ITGAM*, *SIRPA* and *GCA* (Roes *et al*, 2003), as well as myeloid growth factor receptor genes such as *CSF1R* (Edwards *et al*, 2019) and *CSF3R*. Upregulated genes also include genes which are antagonistic to HSPC populations, for instance transplantation of *KLF7*-transduced cells into lethally irradiated mice inhibits bone marrow reconstitution and suppresses HSCs and haematopoietic progenitor populations (Schuettpeitz *et al*, 2012).

Downregulated genes include genes which are known to play important roles in DC lineage restriction, for instance *FLT3* (D'Amico *et al*, 2003, Onai *et al*, 2006) and *GATA2* (Onodera *et al*, 2016), as well as HSC-associated genes such as *SOCS2* which preserves stemness of HSCs under stress (Vitali *et al*, 2015) and *MEIS1* although not its co-factor *HOXA9* (Collins *et al*, 2014). Interestingly, *CSF3R* (upregulated) and *GATA2* (downregulated) mutations are amongst the most common co-occurring mutations in patients with *CEBPA*^{dm} (Su *et al*, 2018, Maxson *et al*, 2016).

By contrast, the *CEBPA* N321D mutation has a remarkable effect on the WT transcriptional signature in Hoxb8-FL cells in self-renewal conditions, with only 15 upregulated and 5 downregulated genes identified on differential expression with EV-transduced cells, in comparison with 636 upregulated and 429 downregulated genes on differential expression of wildtype *CEBPA* against EV-transduced cells. This suggests that C/EBP α N321D has a dominant negative effect on exogenous wildtype C/EBP α .

In summary, *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells demonstrate a distinct transcriptional profile in the presence of Hoxb8 nuclear translocation which is characterised by upregulation of genes associated with myeloid specification and differentiation, and downregulation of genes associated with alternative lineages and HSPC states. Furthermore, the C-terminal N321D mutation is not able to promote this transcriptional signature at an early LMPP-like stage of haematopoiesis.

4.5.2 Effects of mutant C/EBP α on transcriptional wiring and myeloid differentiation, and the single-cell expression profile of *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells in conditions which favour differentiation

Previously, we have described how Hoxb8 cells transduced with *CEBPA* N321D demonstrate distinct behaviour when differentiated in Flt3L. Specifically, *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells demonstrate reduced expression of CD11b and SIRP α at Day 5 of differentiation, when compared to EV-transduced cells. Correlation with gene expression modules from ImmGen data suggests that Hoxb8-FL cells differentiate into both pDCs and type 2 cDCs in the presence of Flt3L. Gene set enrichment of genes differentially expressed in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells between Days 5 and 0 effectively points towards a pDC precursor cell ontology, both by using ASAP's enrichment tool, and by inputting upregulated genes identified by DESeq2 into an independent gene set enrichment tool such as Enrichr. In addition, the following genes were upregulated exclusively in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells and were associated to pDC cell ontology using Enrichr: *SLC44A1*, *TRAPPC5*, *MGAT1*, *FNDC3A*, *IFFO1*, *RUNX2*, and *RAB33B*. *RUNX2* has been shown to be highly expressed in pDCs and is required both for pDC maturation and for the expression of IRF7 which in turn regulates type I interferon production (Chopin *et al*, 2016). *RUNX2* is highly expressed in HSCs but exhibits rapidly decreased expression during myeloid differentiation at the CMP stage. Sustained *RUNX2* expression has been shown to block myeloid differentiation capacity, decrease expression of core binding factor targets *CSF1R*, *MPO*, and *CEBPD*, and decrease expression of gatekeepers of myeloid differentiation such as *CEBPA* and *GFI1* (Kuo *et al*, 2009). *SLC44A1* is upregulated in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells with high confidence, and encodes the surface protein CDw92, which is known to play a role in DC biology and function including the production of interleukins (Wille *et al*, 2001). Of note, Enrichr associated the upregulated genes *NOTCH1* and *ZEB2* to NK cell ontology, but these genes are known also to play a role in pDC biology. By contrast, genes shown to be downregulated exclusively between Days 5 and 0 in the *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cell line include genes (*FOSB*, *CSF3R* and *CLEC5A*) which play key roles in macrophage and granulocyte differentiation (Hong *et al*, 2011, Liu *et al*, 1996, Aoki *et al*, 2009, Batliner *et al*, 2011).

It is not possible to directly compare the gene expression profiles of *CEBPA* N321D and *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells in conditions which favour differentiation of Hoxb-FL cells, because *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells overcome Hoxb8 effects. Perhaps the most important data

subsets for differential expression at Day 5 of differentiation in Flt3L are the *CEBPA* N321D and EV-transduced single cells, because these reveal gene sets which characterise two entirely different transcriptional trajectories from an initial gene expression signature which is originally very similar between *CEBPA* N321D and EV-transduced cells in the presence of estradiol. Comparison of these two gene expression trajectories suggests that *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells switch on a HSPC transcriptional program including *SOCS2*, and fail to switch on genes associated with macrophage and cDC programs including *SIRPA* (Gurka *et al*, 2015) and genes which encode known partner TFs of wildtype *CEBPA* such as *JUNB* and *FOS* (Rangatia *et al*, 2003, Cai *et al*, 2008, Rangatia *et al*, 2002, Hong *et al*, 2011). Notwithstanding reports by Cai *et al* that AP-1 heterodimers with C/EBP α activate the PU.1 promoter and direct monocyte lineage commitment (Cai *et al*, 2008), differential expression with DESeq2 in our experiments shows no significant differences in gene expression of either *SPI1* or *IRF8* at Day 5 between cells transduced with EV and *CEBPA* N321D. This may imply that the N321D mutation can exert its phenotypic effects by pathways which are independent of PU.1 and IRF8. However, it is important to note that our results are not directly comparable because Cai *et al* employed BM mononuclear cells which were lineage depleted and then cultured in IL-3/IL-6/SCF, rather than LMPP-like cells in cytokine conditions which promote DC differentiation.

In summary, our expression data confirms that EV-transduced Hoxb8-FL cells differentiate into mature pDCs and type 2 cDCs in the presence of Flt3L, and provides new data to suggest that *CEBPA* N321D upregulates HSPC and pDC transcriptional programs and downregulates programs associated with granulocyte, macrophage and cDC lineage restriction. Overall, this C-terminal mutation generates a pDC precursor gene expression profile when LMPP-like cells are differentiated in the presence of Flt3L. This suggests a DC-mediated mechanism which can potentially offer novel insights into the biology of C/EBP α -mutated AML, however it requires validation by further experiments. For instance, it would be interesting to further characterise this effect by taking BM mononuclear cells from a mouse model, lineage depleting them, transducing those cells with a range of C-terminal and N-terminal *CEBPA* mutations, and then culturing them in Flt3L.

In addition, single-cell analysis describes heterogeneity within the *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells, in particular it identifies a small population of cells which continue to demonstrate a

transcriptional signature similar to immortalised Hoxb8-FL cells even in conditions where Hoxb8 is translocated to the cytoplasm. One can speculate that it is this small population which persists indefinitely in Flt3L differentiation media and which is capable of long-term engraftment *in vivo*, and therefore it would be interesting in a future experiment to employ ultra-high-throughput scRNA-seq systems such as 10x Chromium (Zhang *et al*, 2019) and capture a larger number of cells from this population to explore their gene expression profile.

5. ChIP-seq reveals the effect of *CEBPA* N321D mutation on genome-wide binding of CEBP/α and identifies direct targets for transcription

5.1 Introduction

Chromatin immunoprecipitation (ChIP) selectively enriches regions of chromatin which present specific antigen and which can be bound by a corresponding specific antibody, providing an *in vivo* snapshot of the interaction between a protein and fragments of DNA within a particular cell or tissue type. ChIP-seq builds on ChIP by employing massive parallel sequencing to annotate immunoprecipitation data onto a reference genome (Figure 5.1), and represents a powerful tool for genome-wide analysis of protein-DNA interactions (Johnson *et al*, 2007). Nevertheless, the biological interpretation of ChIP-seq data can be problematic, with a large number of binding sites having no obvious functional significance, leading some authors to hypothesise that binding events can be ‘opportunistic’ (Zhu *et al*, 2012). Further difficulties in interpreting ChIP-seq data are caused by evidence which suggests that TF binding patterns are commonly cell type-specific (Calero-Nieto *et al*, 2014). Ultimately, robust confirmation of TF-DNA interactions requires functional studies to establish novel transcriptional interactions and networks (Wilson *et al*, 2010).

We have found a dendritic cell phenotype on differentiating *CEBPA* N321D-transduced Hoxb8-FL cells in Flt3L, and we have employed single cell RNA-seq to characterise transcriptional profiles in EV and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells. Our results suggest that the *CEBPA* N321D mutation promotes an immortalised DC phenotype in conditions of differentiation in Flt3L. However, scRNA-seq does not provide any information about the mechanism of this altered gene expression profile, in particular it does not identify whether genes are direct targets of C/EBPα N321D or provide information about chromatin accessibility. Furthermore, C/EBPα is a transcription factor and exerts its biological effects by binding to enhancer and promoter regions on DNA to regulate gene expression, and there is evidence that C/EBPα can act as a pioneer factor (Di Stefano *et al*, 2016). For these reasons, it is helpful to integrate gene expression data with ChIP-seq data in our cellular model of mutant C/EBPα.

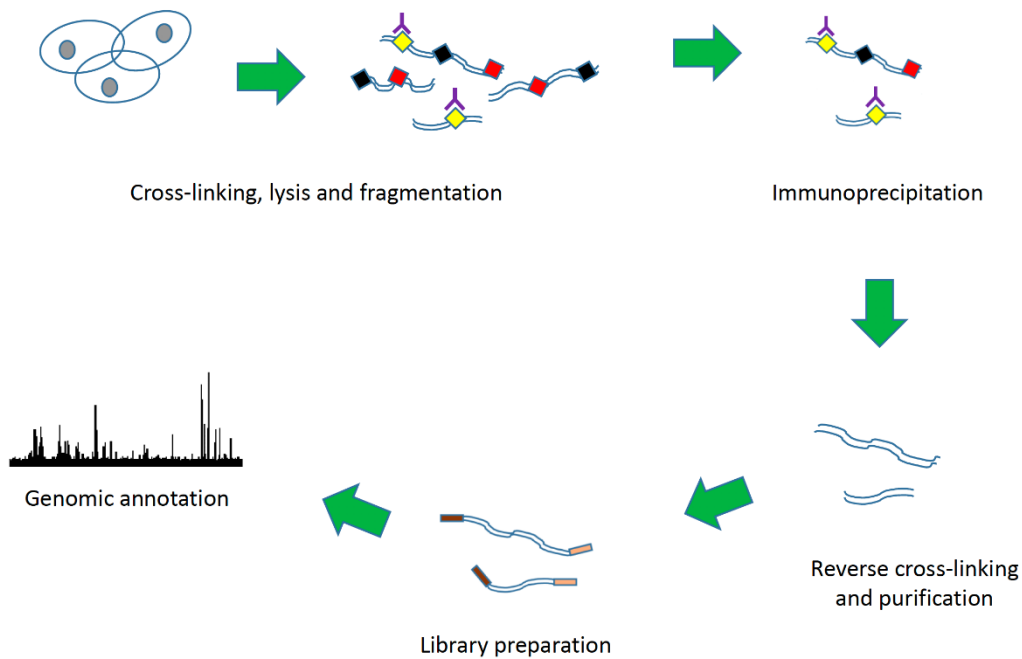


Figure 5.1 ChIP-seq combines ChIP (cross-linking of protein with DNA in chromatin followed by immunoprecipitation of DNA fragments bound by specific protein) with massive parallel sequencing to identify genome-wide binding of transcription factors

C-terminal in-frame mutations have varied effects on transactivation (Pabst *et al*, 2001), but are characterised primarily by altered DNA-binding at the bZIP region of C/EBP α . The N321D mutation is located at the 321st codon which lies within the bZIP's leucine zipper (LZ). LZs are characterised by hydrophobic leucine residues at every *d* position in an $(abcdefg)_n$ amino acid repeat, and they are configured in an α -helical structure which interdigitates with parallel residues from a partner protein at their respective LZ domains. The two dimerised TFs then bifurcate at their basic region (BR) domains to bind the major groove of DNA. Asparagine residues can specify dimer formation (Zeng *et al*, 1997), and in addition dimerisation profiles are particularly affected by amino acids at positions *a*, *e* and *g* in the LZ heptad repeat (Schuermann *et al*, 1992). CEBPA N321D causes asparagine to be replaced by aspartate at position *a* in the heptad repeat, and therefore it would be reasonable to hypothesise that this causes LZ reconfiguration and altered DNA-binding with associated transcriptional effects.

Genome-wide binding of C/EBP α N321D constitutes an important linking step between gene expression alterations and the altered phenotype seen in Hoxb8-FL cells transduced with the CEBPA mutation. This is particularly so because we know that C/EBP α is a transcription factor which dimerises and/or interacts directly with other key haematopoietic transcription factors.

For instance, C/EBP α binds to the *SPI1* promoter (Kummalue *et al*, 2003) and its -14 kb enhancer (Yeamans *et al*, 2007). In addition, evidence of TF binding can provide information on whether the genes dysregulated on gene expression analysis are direct or indirect targets of mutant C/EBP α .

ChIP-seq for C/EBP α has been previously studied in haematopoietic stem cells (Hasemann *et al*, 2014), haematopoietic progenitor and leukaemic cells (Ohlsson *et al*, 2014), adipocytes (Haakonsson *et al*, 2013), primary macrophages (Zhang *et al*, 2013), basophils and mast cells (Qi *et al*, 2013), myeloid cells including neutrophils and monocytes (Avellino *et al*, 2016) and dendritic cell progenitors (Welner *et al*, 2013). These studies have provided a number of interesting findings regarding the role of C/EBP α in haematopoiesis. Firstly, it appears that C/EBP α binds to proximal promoter and distal regulatory regions of genes implicated in myeloid differentiation as early in differentiation as the LSK cell stage of haematopoiesis (Hasemann *et al*, 2014), suggesting that C/EBP α plays a role in lineage priming before expression levels increase at the CMP to GMP junction. Secondly, C/EBP α can play a collaborative role with other transcriptional regulators such as MLL fusion proteins to promote leukaemic transformation of cells (Ohlsson *et al*, 2014). Thirdly, C/EBP α continues to modify transcriptional programs through later hierarchical cell fate decisions, for instance C/EBP α instructs specification in basophil and mast cell progenitors (Qi *et al*, 2013). Fourthly, C/EBP α -binding is tissue-specific (Di Stefano *et al*, 2014) and species-specific across vertebrate mammals (Villar *et al*, 2014). In addition, *CEBPA* expression is also tissue-specific, for instance +34 kb and +42 kb enhancers of the *CEBPA* locus are H3K27Ac-enriched only in neutrophils and monocytes, and it has been found that deletion of the +42 kb enhancer leads to tissue-specific neutropenia (Avellino *et al*, 2016). Lastly, ChIP-seq of murine CMP progenitor cells suggests that a number of genes implicated in dendritic cell differentiation are directly regulated by C/EBP α (Welner *et al*, 2013). Our own single cell RNA-seq experiments have demonstrated that *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells display alterations in DC gene expression profiles and therefore it can be hypothesised that C/EBP α -binding to DC-related DNA may be dysregulated by mutation of *CEBPA*.

5.2 Experimental design

The objective of our experiment was to analyse the binding profile of endogenous and *CEBPA*-mutant Hoxb8-FL cells before and after differentiation for 5 days in Hoxb8 media F+e⁻. For this purpose, we used the following antibodies: C/EBP α (which we expect to bind to both endogenous and exogenous *CEBPA*) and FLAG (binding to exogenous *CEBPA* in the mutant phenotype only). Additionally we also studied in the same settings the distribution of H3K27Ac, which is a chromatin modification that marks regions of active chromatin. We collected nuclei from EV and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells derived from two distinct transfections, both in F+e⁺ media and after 5 days of differentiation following the withdrawal of estradiol. Cells were cross-linked with formaldehyde 1% and quenched with 2M glycine. Nuclei were subsequently purified, lysed, sonicated, pre-cleared, and then immunoprecipitated with the relevant antibody. The DNA-protein-antibody complexes were captured using agarose G beads, then eluted from beads, cross-linking was reversed, and the DNA fragments isolated by each antibody were purified.

5.3 Confirmation of ChIP enrichment by qPCR and ChIP-seq read quality

Before proceeding to the generation of a DNA library, the enrichment of the *SP1* -14 kb upstream regulatory element (URE), known to be bound by C/EBP α , was analysed by qPCR. As a negative control, a region within mouse chromosome 1 (mChrom1) which is not bound by C/EBP α (Calero-Nieto *et al*, 2010) was also analysed. In both cases, the enrichment was compared to the DNA obtained with the IgG control, which acted as an indicator for background DNA binding.

The qPCR analysis did not evaluate genome-wide enrichment but rather enrichment at a specific locus. There was good enrichment at the *SP1* -14 kb URE when precipitating with C/EBP α or FLAG, as compared to the mChrom1 region (Figure 5.2). The results of qPCR provided reassurance that chromatin immunoprecipitation had been effective and therefore libraries were prepared for ChIP-seq.

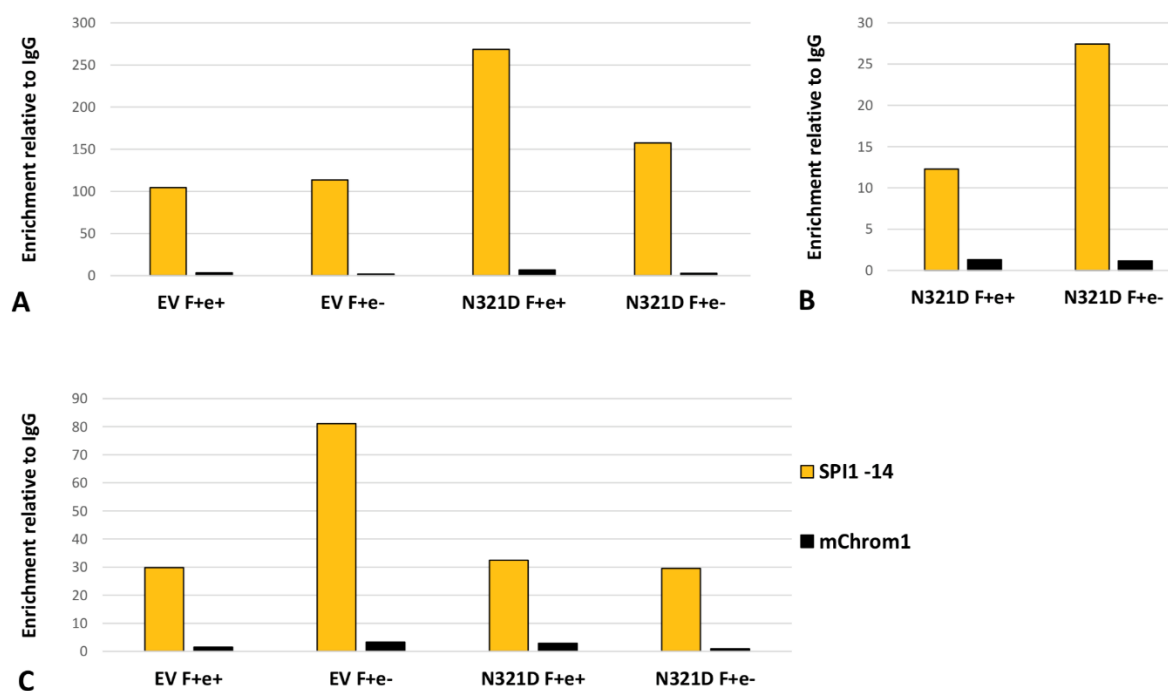


Figure 5.2 qPCR evaluation of ChIP enrichment in one of two biological replicates (A) DNA enrichment after precipitation with C/EBP α antibody is seen at higher levels at the *SPI1* -14 kb URE than at an inactive region of Chromosome 1 (Calero-Nieto *et al*, 2010). Similar results seen with (B) FLAG and (C) H3K27Ac enrichment.

Input chromatin from all four conditions was used as a control to reduce bias due to chromatin fragmentation and variable sequencing efficiency associated with different base composition. H3K27Ac antibody was used to map the distribution of histone H3 acetylated at Lysine 27 as a marker of active regions of the genome (Creyghton *et al*, 2010). C/EBP α and FLAG antibodies were employed to identify regions bound by C/EBP α and by exogenous C/EBP α N321D respectively. Representative tracks at selected enhancer regions *SPI1* -14 kb and *CEBPB* +65 kb are shown as evidence for ChIP-seq quality (Figure 5.3):

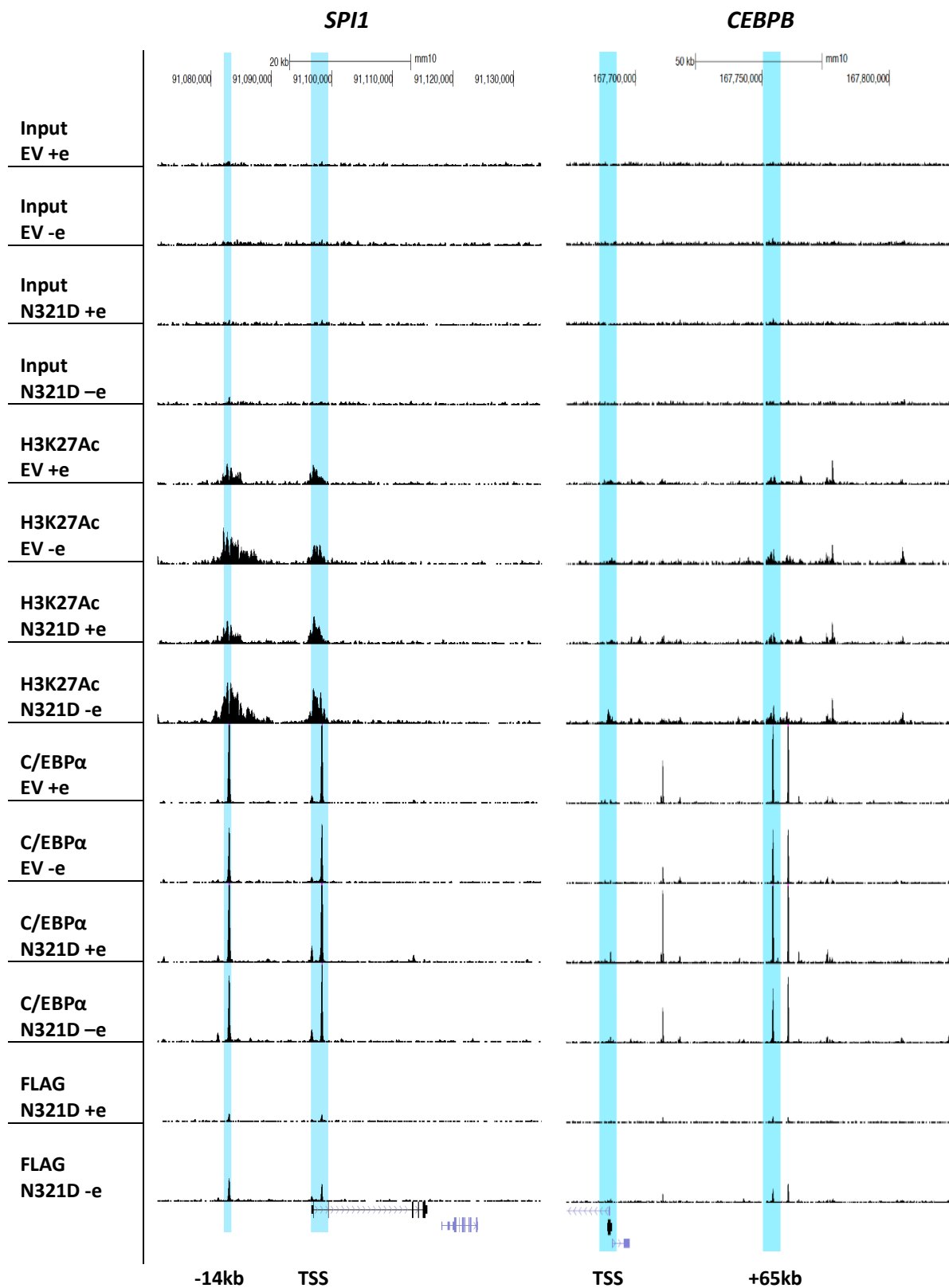


Figure 5.3 UCSC Genome Browser screenshots of Input, H3K27Ac, C/EBPα and FLAG binding at selected enhancers *SPI1* -14 kb and *CEBPB* +65 kb

5.4 Binding events for exogenous mutant C/EBP α , but not endogenous C/EBP α , are markedly increased during differentiation of mutant cells in Flt3L

Figure 5.4 represents DNA regions of increased enrichment at Days 5 and 0 for C/EBP α and FLAG antibodies. Interestingly, marked alteration in binding was only seen in the FLAG antibody for both ChIP-seq replicate experiments.

Figures 5.4 (A) and (B) represent replicate experiments for enrichment by C/EBP α of DNA taken from EV cells, comparing enrichment for DNA regions at Day 5 and at Day 0. Figures 5.4 (C) and (D) represent the same for DNA taken from *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells. Figures 5.4 (E) and (F) represent replicate experiments for enrichment by FLAG of DNA taken from *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells. Enrichment corresponds to the log2 of normalised read counts at C/EBP α and FLAG peaks respectively.

The FLAG sequence was inserted into the N321D construct only, and therefore the FLAG antibody enriches only for DNA regions bound by C/EBP α N321D and not for regions bound by endogenous C/EBP α .

For C/EBP α , there is no obvious quantitative change in global enrichment of DNA between Day 5 and Day 0 in either EV or *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells, although specific DNA regions are bound differentially between the days and between the conditions (Figures 5.5, 5.6 and 5.7). In contrast with the bi-modal distribution of global read counts at C/EBP α peaks between Days 5 and 0, there were relatively few regions with increased read counts at FLAG peaks at Day 0 in estradiol, compared to Day 5 after differentiation in Flt3L. It is possible that at Day 0 the C/EBP α -bound complexes are relatively stable and inaccessible by the mutant, but upon differentiation there is a higher requirement for C/EBP α and its partners for protein synthesis, and at this point the mutant TF binds to DNA and exerts a dominant negative effect on the wildtype TF. One can also speculate that genes for lineage specification and differentiation are preferentially bound by the mutant TF. Interestingly, the wildtype C/EBP α binds equally avidly during progenitor and differentiated cell states, whereas the mutant C/EBP α binds more avidly during differentiated cell states, supporting the hypothesis that Leukaemia initiating cells in C/EBP α -mutated AML are differentiated cells rather than HSPCs.

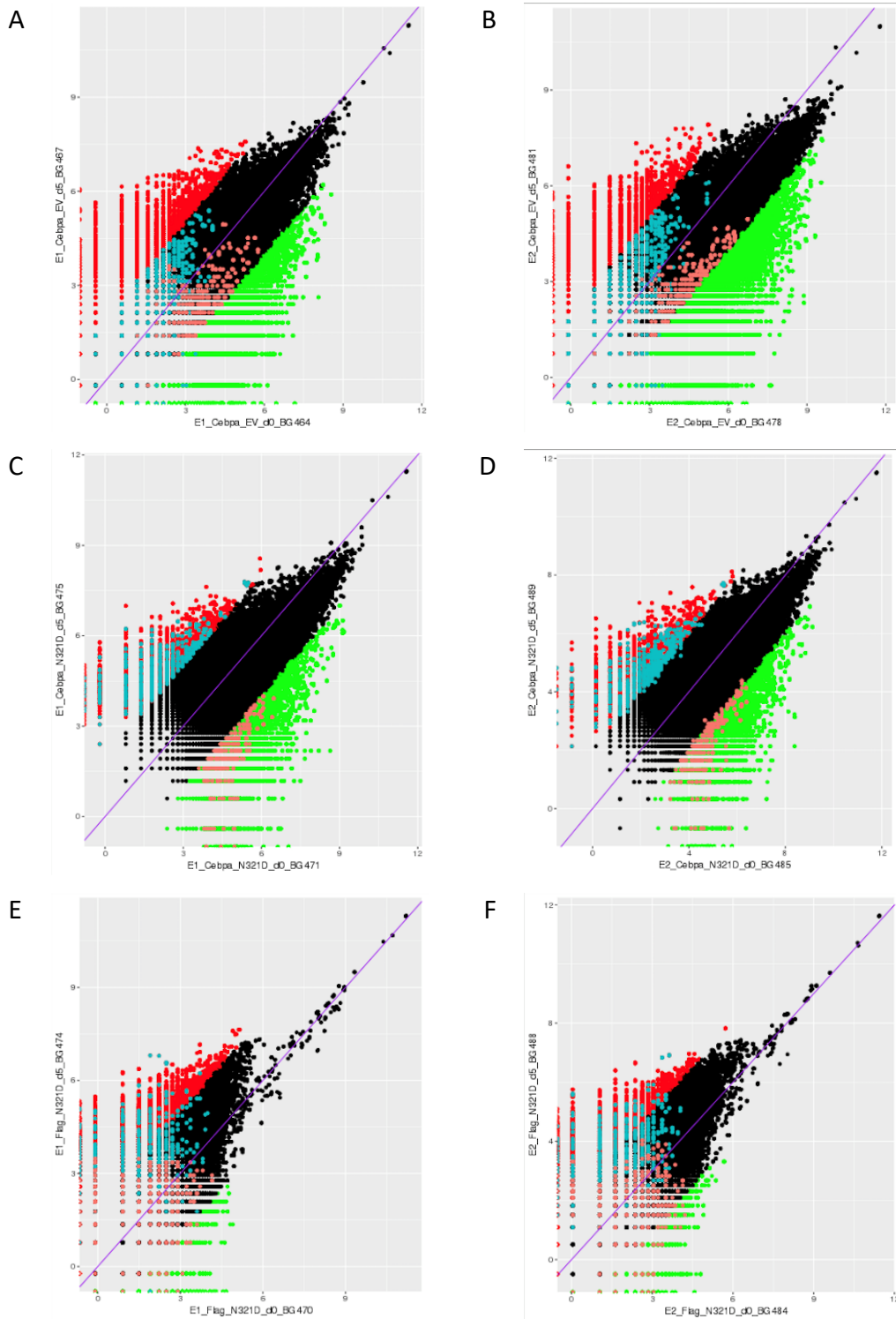


Figure 5.4 Read count comparison for two biological replicates between Day 0 and after differentiation in Flt3L for 5 days, for (A) and (B) C/EBP α antibody in EV cells, (C) and (D) C/EBP α antibody in mutant cells, and (E) and (F) FLAG antibody in mutant cells only. Log2 graph with red dots representing DNA regions with ≥ 4 -fold increase in read count and green dots representing ≥ 4 -fold decrease in read count when comparing Days 5 and 0. Line corresponding to direct correlation (no change) is depicted. Blue and pink dots represent regions enriched and depleted respectively for N321D-transduced cells when compared to EV cells.

Exogenous C/EBP α WT binding has not been analysed by ChIP-seq, but the altered phenotype and gene expression profile suggest that a higher ratio of C/EBP α in *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells may act to open up chromatin in cells even before they are cultured in conditions which favour differentiation. This would be consistent with recent reports by Thomas Graf and colleagues that pulsed *CEBPA* expression in B cells can open up chromatin and poise them for reprogramming into induced pluripotent stem cells (Di Stefano *et al*, 2014).

Binding events from both biological replicates in EV and *CEBPA*-transduced cells were then compared to find DNA regions unique to each cell line which demonstrated four-fold increased and decreased read counts for C/EBP α -binding between Days 5 and 0 of differentiation (Figures 5.5, 5.6).

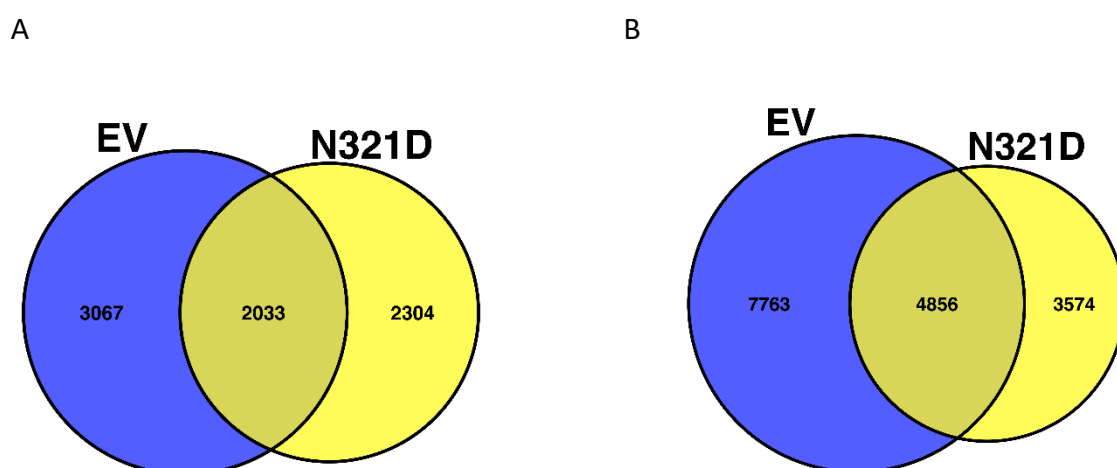


Figure 5.5 Regions of DNA which demonstrate four-fold increased (A) and decreased (B) read counts for C/EBP α -binding in first biological replicate between Days 5 and 0 of differentiation in Flt3L

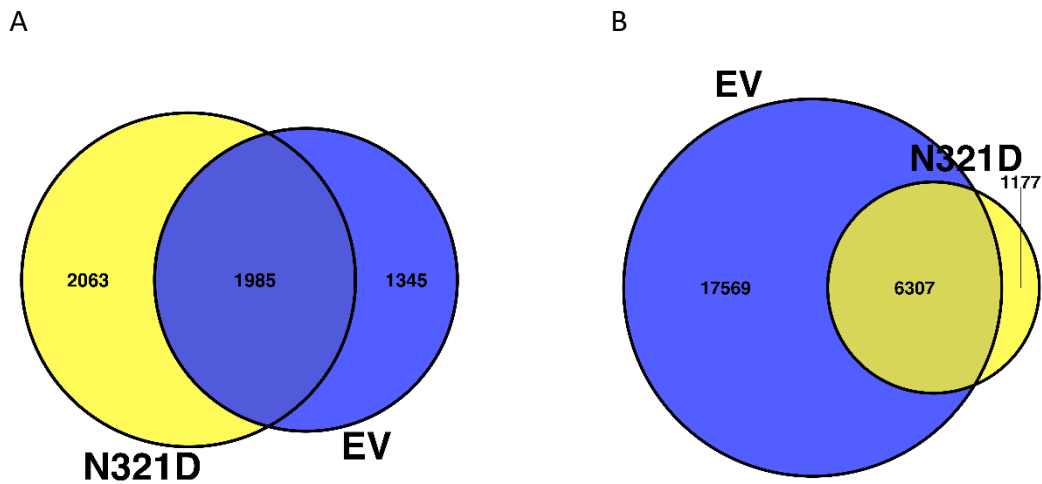


Figure 5.6 Regions of DNA which demonstrate four-fold increased (A) and decreased (B) read counts for C/EBP α -binding in second biological replicate between Days 5 and 0 of differentiation in Flt3L

Results from the two biological replicates were then intersected to identify a final list of high confidence regions where C/EBP α binding is upregulated (Figure 5.7 A) or downregulated (Figure 5.7 B) during differentiation in Flt3L:

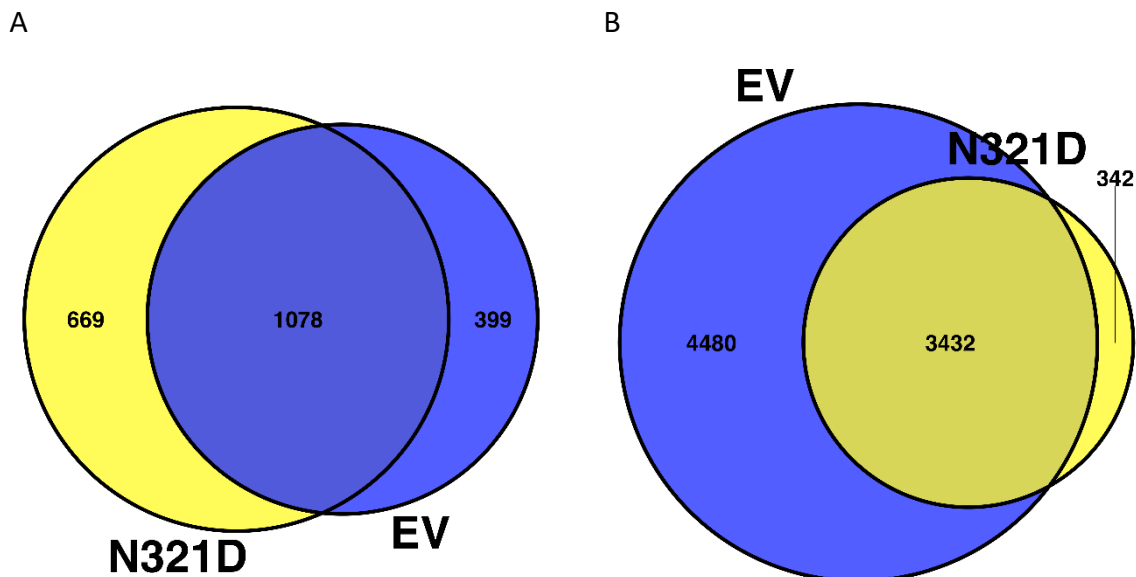


Figure 5.7 High confidence regions of DNA which demonstrate four-fold increased (A) and decreased (B) read counts for C/EBP α -binding after intersection of both biological replicates

5.5 Intersection of differential gene expression and C/EBP α binding events

Following the observation that there is a quantitative shift in FLAG genome-wide binding events but not C/EBP α binding events between Days 0 and 5 (Figure 5.4), and bearing in mind that there is a phenotypic difference between these two cell lines, it was decided to carry out a qualitative analysis of regions bound by C/EBP α .

We examined genome-wide binding profiles of EV and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells at Day 5 of differentiation, by defining genes which were associated with regions bound by C/EBP α in EV and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells, and by FLAG in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells only. We identified 4752 genes with an associated C/EBP α peak in both experimental replicates for EV cells, and 8843 genes with a C/EBP α peak in both replicates for *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells. This represents a significant difference in number of genes bound by C/EBP α in EV and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells at Day 5 of differentiation in Flt3L, and it is possible that either the increased expression ratio of *CEBPA* in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells or else binding effects specific to C/EBP α N321D, for instance conformational changes in the TF, are responsible for the quantitative difference. The 8843 genes associated with a C/EBP α peak included binding events for both endogenous murine C/EBP α and for exogenous human C/EBP α N321D, and therefore we also identified 2747 genes with an associated FLAG peak in both experimental replicates for *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells. These 2747 genes were specifically bound by exogenous C/EBP α N321D.

This data was then correlated with gene expression data from our scRNA-seq experiment. During differentiation of EV cells between Days 0 and 5, 1400 genes were upregulated and 1340 genes were downregulated. By contrast, during differentiation of *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells over 5 days, 594 genes were upregulated and 418 genes were downregulated (Figure 5.8). In addition, differential expression between both cell lines at Day 5 gives 224 upregulated and 633 downregulated genes in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells when compared to EV cells at Day 5 (Figure 5.9).

This data can then be interrogated by examining the 1400 genes which are upregulated during differentiation of EV cells, identifying those genes which have an associated C/EBP α peak in both ChIP-seq replicate experiments at Day 5 of differentiation (Appendix, Table 11), and then exploring the binding patterns of those same 653 genes in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells. This strategy looks at differential expression in EV cells between Days 5 and 0, and then correlates this with ChIP-seq binding profiles (see Figure 5.8).

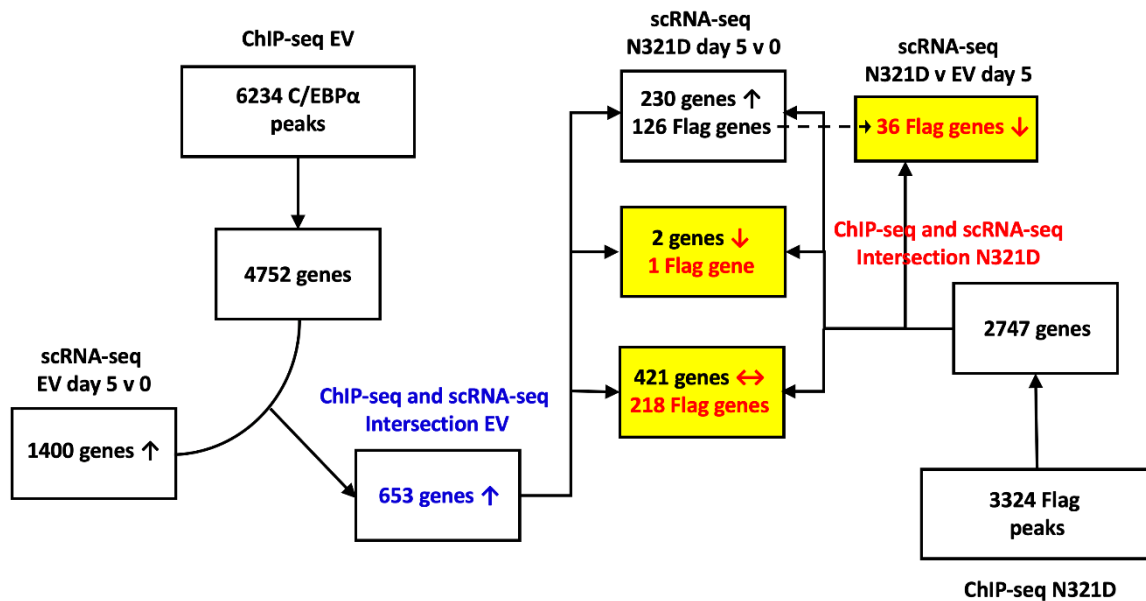


Figure 5.8 Schematic of first strategy to analyse qualitative variations in genome-wide binding profiles between EV and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells

From the 653 genes identified as upregulated and having an associated C/EBP α peak in EV cells, 230 genes are also upregulated in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells during differentiation (Appendix, Table 12), and 126 are bound by the FLAG antibody at Day 5 (Appendix, Table 13). Interestingly, 36 of these 126 genes are downregulated in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells when compared to EV cells at Day 5. These 36 genes (Appendix, Table 14) are therefore bound by exogenous C/EBP α N321D, upregulated during the differentiation process in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells, but their upregulation is impaired in comparison with EV cells. This means that although these genes are upregulated during differentiation of *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells, exogenous C/EBP α N321D binding events seem to have a dominant negative effect on expression of these genes when compared to EV-transduced cells.

From the 653 genes, 2 genes are downregulated in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells during differentiation and 1 of those 2 genes is also bound by the FLAG antibody.

421 of the 653 genes do not significantly change expression levels during differentiation of *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells, including 218 genes which are bound by the FLAG antibody at Day 5 in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells. These 218 genes confirm the general observation that ChIP-seq binding events do not necessarily alter expression profiles or biological function in each and every cellular context (Calero-Nieto *et al*, 2014).

In addition to upregulated genes during differentiation of EV cells in Flt3L which have an associated C/EBP α peak in EV cells, there are 1340 downregulated genes identified on differential expression between EV cells at Days 5 and 0, of which only 3 genes (*BC017158*, *A1314180* and *A1987944*) have an associated C/EBP α peak in EV cells. This suggests that there is little evidence of a correlation between C/EBP α -binding and downregulation of gene expression during differentiation of EV cells and therefore further exploration of this data set was not carried out.

5.5.1 Immunomodulatory and DC genes including *NOTCH2* are bound by mutant C/EBP α and demonstrate reduced upregulation in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells during differentiation in Flt3L

These 36 genes (see Figure 5.8) represent genes which are bound by both endogenous C/EBP α and exogenous C/EBP α N321D, upregulated during differentiation in both EV and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells, but their upregulation is impaired in comparison with EV cells. They include immunoregulatory genes involved in DC differentiation and function such as *AXL*, which acts as a canonical marker of a discrete population of pDCs which do not produce type I IFN (Zhang *et al*, 2017) and which is upregulated by IFN- α during differentiation of human DCs (Scutera *et al*, 2009). Expression of *CD300a*, another of these 36 genes, is expressed by a wide range of immunomodulatory cells including NK cells, T and B cells, monocytes and dendritic cells (Clark *et al*, 2009). *CD300a* is downregulated by exogenous IFN- α , and *CD300a* in turn regulates IFN- α and TNF- α secretion by human pDCs (Ju *et al*, 2008).

ITGAM encodes CD11b, which is highly expressed in both monocytes and dendritic cells, and *ITGAM* has been found to regulate lipopolysaccharide pathways in myeloid DCs but not in

macrophages. In addition, *ITGAM*/CD11b promote TLR4 endocytosis and TRIF-mediated signalling in myeloid DCs (Ling *et al*, 2014). CD11b provided the first evidence of a DC phenotype in our initial flow cytometry experiments, and shows the important role that can be played by genes which are upregulated during differentiation of *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells but have impaired upregulation in comparison with EV cells.

Genes including *TLR2* and *CTSB* are implicated in tolerogenic DC mechanisms. *TLR2* upregulation in tolerogenic DCs results in a reduced proinflammatory immune program (Chamorro *et al*, 2009) and *TLR2* activation promotes tumour DC dysfunction whereas *TLR2* blockade improves the efficacy of immunotherapy (Tang *et al*, 2015). *CTSB* is involved in apoptosis and lysosomal activation in pDCs (Robbins *et al*, 2008) and in MHC class II antigen presentation in tolerogenic DCs (Schinnerling *et al*, 2015).

Other genes which demonstrate reduced upregulation in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells have not been directly associated with DC differentiation or function, but are involved in immunoregulatory mechanisms. For instance, *DPEP2* mediates inflammatory effects through conversion of leukotriene D4 to leukotriene E4 (Toda *et al*, 2013). Similarly, *IFITM3* is an antiviral gene stimulated by type 1 IFN, and expression of *IFITM3* is increased by A/Bris/59/07 infection (Cao *et al*, 2012).

From the perspective of dendritic cell function, perhaps the most significant gene bound by FLAG which has impaired upregulation in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells in comparison with EV-transduced cells is *NOTCH2*. The NOTCH family of transmembrane receptor TFs mediates an intercellular signalling pathway which regulates decisions between adjacent cells. Each family member comprises a heterodimeric receptor with extracellular subunits on the cell surface engaging ligands presented by *trans*- or opposing cells, and intracellular subunits mediating gene expression patterns associated with cell fate decision and differentiation. In addition, NOTCH mediates interaction between bone marrow stroma (BMS) and haematopoietic progenitor cells. The NOTCH ligand Jagged-1 is highly expressed in BMS and stimulates accumulation of DC precursors while preventing terminal differentiation of DCs, whereas the Delta-1 ligand is highly expressed in spleen stroma and promotes terminal differentiation (Cheng *et al*, 2007). Interestingly, deletion of the NOTCH2 receptor causes a tissue-specific reduction of DC populations in the spleen (Lewis *et al*, 2011). This suggests that

the effect of NOTCH receptor/transcription factors on DC differentiation is complex and dependent on cellular or spatial context. In addition, NOTCH signalling mediates immunomodulatory mechanisms in cancer, for instance it mediates functionally altered myeloid cells and NOTCH inhibition in DCs can cause abnormal myeloid cell differentiation which is implicated in oncogenesis (Cheng *et al*, 2014). The observation that *NOTCH2* is bound by FLAG and shows impaired gene expression in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells suggests that C/EBP α N321D may directly interact with *NOTCH2* cis-regulatory elements and interfere with DC differentiation.

Taken together, these data demonstrate that genes directly bound by C/EBP α N321D which show decreased expression during differentiation of *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells include genes specifically associated with both pDC and cDC differentiation and function, as well as more generic immunomodulatory mechanisms including tolerogenicity and inflammation.

5.5.2 Loci for important partner TFs (PU.1, RUNX1, IRF8) are bound by exogenous mutant C/EBP α but have no altered gene expression

126 genes are bound by endogenous C/EBP α , upregulated during differentiation in both EV and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells, and bound by exogenous C/EBP α N321D. They include the 36 genes identified in 5.5.1 above, but also 90 genes which are bound by exogenous C/EBP α N321D and have no significant difference in expression levels between EV and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells at Day 5 of differentiation. It is important to note that these genes are specifically bound by the mutant C/EBP α N321D, because they encode important partner TFs for C/EBP α which are known to play a role in dendritic cell function and/or differentiation such as IRF8 (Kurotaki *et al*, 2014, Sichien *et al*, 2016), PU.1 (Carotta *et al*, 2010, Merad, 2010) and RUNX1 (Guo *et al*, 2012, Satpathy *et al*, 2014). It is well-established that TFs act in combinatorial networks (Wilson *et al*, 2010) and it is possible that C/EBP α N321D binding may produce secondary indirect effects even if expression of *SP1* is not significantly altered at Day 5 of differentiation. Previous work by Miller *et al* has shown that mutations in bZIP TFs including C/EBP α alter conformation and binding specificity at the level of amino acid residues (Miller *et al*, 2003), and more recent work has demonstrated that mutations can be engineered to alter the dimerisation profiles of bZIP TFs (Pogenberg *et al*, 2014). In addition, Thomas Graf and colleagues have recently shown that TFs can drive topological genome reorganisation before changes in gene expression (Stadhouders *et al*, 2018). Therefore one

can hypothesise that mutant C/EBP α may alter conformational interactions with partner TFs even if it does not change the expression level, and this can in turn then change the combinatorial effect of C/EBP α with the partner TF. It would be interesting to employ crystallography or chromosome conformation capture to examine the conformational effects of the N321D mutation but this is outside of the scope of this study. However, it is important to recognise that the interplay between TFs and three-dimensional genome topology can drive cell fate decisions (Stadhouders *et al*, 2019).

5.5.3 *TGFBI* is bound by mutant C/EBP α , upregulated during differentiation in EV cells, but downregulated during differentiation of *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells

From the 653 genes which are bound by endogenous C/EBP α and upregulated during differentiation in EV cells, 2 genes (*FCGR3* and *TGFBI*) are downregulated in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells during differentiation and 1 of those 2 genes is also bound by the FLAG antibody. This single gene *TGFBI* represents a reversal of expression profile between *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells and EV cells which is directly associated with binding of mutant C/EBP α N321D.

The role of *TGFBI* in the pathogenesis of corneal dystrophy has been elucidated in several studies (Venkatraman *et al*, 2019), and altered expression of *TGFBI* has been implicated in non-small cell lung cancer (Yan *et al*, 2018), glioma cells (Guo *et al*, 2018, Pan *et al*, 2018), and other cancers (Han *et al*, 2015, Zhu *et al*, 2015, Ozawa *et al*, 2016, Lauden *et al*, 2014). *TGFBI* has been characterised as a regulator of HSC specification in a zebrafish model (Charbord *et al*, 2014), and plays a regulatory role in human haematopoiesis that includes cell-intrinsic effects but which also involves interplay between both human HSPCs and bone marrow mesenchymal cells (Klamer *et al*, 2018). Specifically, HSPC maintenance was enhanced by reduced expression of *TGFBI*. In addition, *TGFBI* has been shown in microarray analysis to have increased expression in a CD14⁺ myeloid subset of human dendritic cells (Ahn *et al*, 2002), and to have decreased expression in DCs where maturation was attenuated by regulatory T cells (Mavin *et al*, 2017). It can be hypothesised that reduced expression of *TGFBI* in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells associated with exogenous C/EBP α N321D binding mediates HSPC maintenance and contributes to a differentiation block in DC maturation.

5.5.4 Dominant negative effect of C/EBP α N321D affects genes implicated in DC cell fate and function, as well as genes involved in cell cycle control

From the 653 genes which were bound by endogenous C/EBP α and upregulated during differentiation in EV cells, 421 genes showed no significant differential expression in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells during differentiation over 5 days, and 218 of these genes were bound by the FLAG antibody.

These 218 genes represent the genes directly bound by C/EBP α N321D with a failure to follow the EV model of gene upregulation during differentiation in Flt3L. These genes are the most likely to be subject to a dominant negative effect from the N321D mutation. They include genes which are confirmed by other intersections in this chapter (see 5.6.1 below) and which play a role in DC lineage specification and/or function, including *COTL1*, *DAB2*, *FOS*, *IRAK2*, *JAK2* and *SIRPA*.

The downregulation of *FOS* in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells is particularly interesting because the AP-1 proteins are known to act as dimerisation partners of C/EBP α . Previous work has shown that C/EBP α :C/EBP α homodimers promote granulopoiesis whereas C/EBP α :Fos heterodimers induce monocyte lineage commitment, and that the interaction between C/EBP α and AP-1 TFs plays a significant role in cell fate decision-making at the CMP to GMP junction (Cai *et al*, 2008).

Zhong *et al* have shown that JAK2 is essential for bone marrow derived dendritic cells (BMDCs) development and maturation, and JAK2 deficiency attenuates innate immune response though not adaptive immune response (Zhong *et al*, 2010). This study did not specifically examine cDC or pDC populations, but it suggests that downregulation of *JAK2* in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells may cause a maturation defect in the DC lineage.

COTL1 alongside *AXL* acts as a canonical marker of a novel discrete subpopulation of pDCs which do not produce type I IFN, but it is not highly expressed in the majority of pDCs which secrete IFN- α and are CD5⁻ CD81⁻ (Zhang *et al*, 2017).

IRAK2 plays a role in interferon production by pDCs, with *IRAK2*-deficient pDCs demonstrating increased nuclear translocation of IRF7 which acts as a key TF for interferon gene transcription (Wang *et al*, 2011).

DAB2 is induced during differentiation of murine bone marrow derived DCs and human monocyte-derived DCs and appears to act as a negative regulator of DC immunogenicity and T cell activation (Ahmed *et al*, 2015). Downregulation of *DAB2* in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells may therefore promote DC migration, antigen uptake, T-cell responses and secretion of cytokines.

In addition to genes which play a role in cell fate decisions and dendritic cell function, this subset of genes also includes three genes which play a role in cell cycle control and therefore may be relevant for the pre-leukaemic effects of the *CEBPA* N321D mutation. Firstly, *CXCR4* has been shown to be associated with cell cycle arrest in leukaemic cells (Burger *et al*, 2007) and furthermore wildtype C/EBP α directly binds to the *CXCR4* promoter to activate transcription (Kuo *et al*, 2014). In addition, it has been shown that an N-terminal mutation of *CEBPA* impairs *CXCR4* expression (Kuo *et al*, 2014). Our own observation that *CXCR4* expression is upregulated in EV and not *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells suggests that binding by the C-terminal mutant C/EBP α N321D may similarly impair expression of *CXCR4* in the Hoxb8-FL cell line.

KLF4 encodes one of the Yamanaka factors (Takahashi *et al*, 2006) and is a second gene which has been implicated in cell cycle control, mediating p53-activation of the cyclin-dependent kinase inhibitor p21 (Zhang *et al*, 2000). In addition, *KLF4* is a target gene of PU.1 and acts as a critical regulator of monopoiesis, promoting monocyte differentiation (Feinberg *et al*, 2007). Failed upregulation of *KLF4* in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells may impair both monopoiesis and cell cycle control in mutant cells.

Finally, *E2F2* has been shown to repress the transcription of cell cycle genes and promote a quiescent G0 state (Infante *et al*, 2008). In *Drosophila*, *E2F2* antagonises *E2F1* and acts to suppress both transcription of *E2F*-regulated genes and DNA synthesis (Frolov *et al*, 2001), and *E2F2* has been shown to act as a tumour suppressor in specific cellular contexts (Opavsky *et al*, 2007). Decreased expression of *E2F2* is particularly interesting because it is well-

established that C/EBP α mediates cell growth arrest through E2F-mediated cell cycle mechanisms (Slomiany *et al*, 2000, Kowenz-Leutz *et al*, 2016).

5.6 Intersection of mutant C/EBP α (FLAG) binding events and differential gene expression between cell lines at Day 5

The second strategy is to look first at the genome-wide binding profile of the FLAG antibody in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells, and then correlate this profile with gene expression data. There are 2747 genes with an associated FLAG peak at Day 5 in both replicates of the ChIP-seq experiments. 160 of these 2747 genes are downregulated (Appendix, Table 15), 49 genes are upregulated (Appendix, Table 15), and 2539 out of the 2747 genes do not significantly change expression profile in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells when compared to EV cells at Day 5. Interestingly, it appears that most of the FLAG binding events are not associated with altered transcriptional status of directly bound genes, and that the dramatic phenotypic difference between the two cell lines is achieved with relatively few downregulated and even fewer upregulated genes.

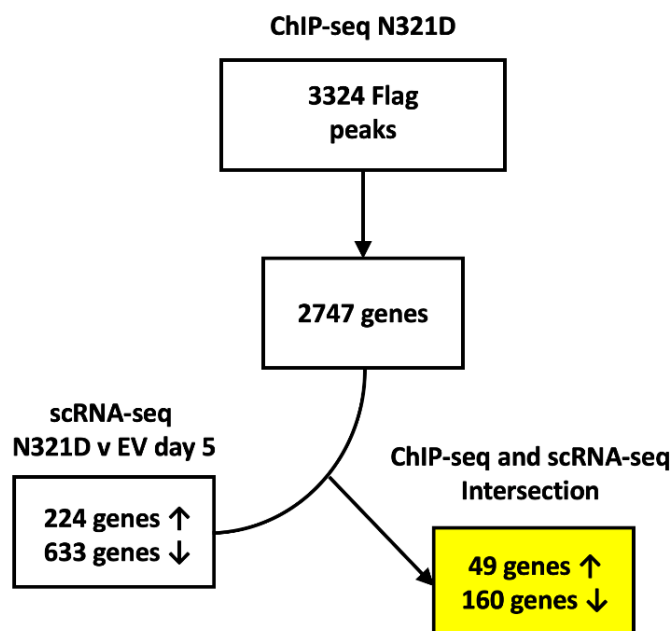


Figure 5.9 Schematic of second strategy to analyse qualitative variations in genome-wide binding profiles between EV and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells

5.6.1 Regulatory elements for genes involved in myeloid differentiation and DC specification are bound by mutant C/EBP α and show reduced expression in mutant cells at Day 5 of differentiation in Flt3L

These 160 genes represent genes which are directly bound by exogenous mutant C/EBP α and which are upregulated in EV-transduced cells or downregulated in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells on differential expression between these cells at Day 5 of culture in media with Flt3L. There is significant overlap with the subset of 36 genes which are bound by exogenous FLAG, upregulated during differentiation in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells, but demonstrate impaired upregulation in comparison with EV cells, with shared genes between the subsets including *AXL*, *CD300a*, *CTSB*, *DPEP2*, *ITGAM*, *TLR2* and *NOTCH2*.

Nevertheless, there are some additional genes in this data set which are relevant for DC biological processes, and which may be directly regulated by the *CEBPA* N321D mutation in the Hoxb8-FL cell line. These genes include well-established genes involved in myeloid differentiation pathways such as *CSF3R*, *JAK2* and *FOS*, as well as other genes which have been shown to play roles in DC differentiation and function.

The role of *JAK2* and *FOS* has been described in 5.5.4 above. *CSF3R* is downregulated on differential expression of *CEBPA* N321D versus EV-transduced cells at Day 5 of culture in media with Flt3L. *CSF3R* encodes the G-CSF receptor which plays an important role in neutrophil ontogeny. Increased expression of *CSF3R* has also been demonstrated in CD11b⁺ cDCs (Robbins *et al*, 2008), and downregulation of *CSF3R* in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells compared with EV-transduced cells suggests an altered DC gene expression program. One can speculate that the upregulation of *CSF3R* in the presence of Flt3L contributes to the cDC phenotype seen in EV-transduced cells, and that failed upregulation in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells allows the pDC progenitor-like phenotype to persist.

Other genes upregulated in EV-transduced cells include genes associated with identification of DCs or specific DC subsets (*CLEC10A*, *CLEC4A1*, *COTL1*, *CD9*) and genes associated with DC function (*DAB2*, *IRAK2*, *MARCH1* and *CD9* again). The roles of *COTL1*, *DAB2* and *IRAK2* have been previously mentioned in 5.5.4 above.

CLEC10A is a specific marker for human CD11c⁺ dendritic cells which are homologous to murine CD8⁻ CD11b⁺ SIRPα⁺ type 2 cDCs (Heger *et al*, 2018). Increased expression of *CLEC10A*, and of the *SIRPA* gene, on differential expression of EV as compared to *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells therefore corresponds with flow cytometry data which suggests that EV cells differentiate into type 2 cDCs in Flt3L and that *CEBPA* N321D-transduction causes a differentiation block in this process.

CLEC4A1 encodes Dendritic cell inhibitory factor 4 (DCIR4) and its expression is significantly diminished by differentiation of inflammatory monocytes into DCs (Kameda *et al*, 2016).

CD9 is downregulated on differential expression between *CEBPA* N321D and EV-transduced cells. Importantly, pDCs have reduced surface expression of MHC class II molecules in comparison with cDCs, and pDCs do not express *CD9* (Asselin-Paturel *et al*, 2001, Mittelbrunn *et al*, 2009). The downregulation of *CD9* in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells may reflect a differentiation shift in mutant cells from cDC to pDC phenotype.

In addition to discriminating between cDC and pDC subsets, *CD9* also plays a role in DC function. It has been shown to facilitate superior antigen presentation ability in murine DCs compared to other APCs by playing a role in physically tethering dissimilar MHC class II molecules (Unternaehrer *et al*, 2007). *CD9* deletion limits MHC II surface expression and significantly impairs CD4⁺ T cell activation in monocyte-derived DCs (Rocha-Perugini *et al*, 2017).

DAB2 and *MARCH1* are involved in antigen presentation and T-cell activation mediated by dendritic cells. *MARCH1*-mediated MHC II ubiquitination in DCs regulates MHC class II surface expression and immunogenic T-cell activation, but also promotes DC selection of regulatory T cells (Oh *et al*, 2013).

In summary, our results suggest that C/EBPα N321D binds to regulatory elements for genes which play significant roles in myeloid differentiation, DC specification and DC function, blocking recruitment of relevant co-activators and general transcription factors.

5.6.2 Mutant C/EBP α binds to HSPC genes including *MYB* and increases their expression in Flt3L differentiation media

These 49 genes represent genes which are directly bound by exogenous mutant C/EBP α and which are downregulated in EV-transduced cells (or upregulated in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells) on differential expression between these cells at Day 5 of differentiation in Flt3L.

Interestingly, these 49 genes include genes which are important for maintenance of haematopoietic progenitor populations. For instance, *SDC1* transcripts are upregulated in murine MPP cells, in contrast to *SDC2* transcripts which are enriched in LT-HSCs (Forsberg *et al*, 2005). *CBX2* is another gene in this subset, and is required for both haematopoietic and progenitor self-renewal with *CBX2* shRNA knock-down resulting in reduced plating potential (van den Boom *et al*, 2013). Perhaps the most interesting gene upregulated by *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells is *MYB*. Primitive haematopoiesis does not require *MYB* (Tober *et al*, 2008), but foetal liver haematopoiesis is MYB-dependent (Mucenski *et al*, 1991) and LT-HSCs express the highest levels of *MYB* with progressive decrease in *MYB* expression during step-wise differentiation to MPP cells and both granulocytes and monocytes (Lieu *et al*, 2012).

Other genes which play a role in DC maturation include *SOCS2* in human monocyte-derived DCs (Hu *et al*, 2009) and *IL6ST* which encodes a signal transducer for IL-6, which in turn blocks DC maturation through STAT3 activation in a mouse model (Park *et al*, 2004).

5.7 Intersection of chromatin accessibility profile and C/EBP α binding events during differentiation in Flt3L

The third strategy to analyse ChIP-seq data is to describe H3K27Ac coverage in C/EBP α -bound regions in both EV and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells to examine qualitative changes in chromatin accessibility in the two conditions. This can be achieved firstly by defining C/EBP α -bound regions in each cell line, and then by intersecting this data with histone acetylation data.

C/EBP α -bound regions can be defined as follows:

- (i) identify regions which are enriched four-fold for C/EBP α (Figure 5.4) when comparing each cell line at Day 5 versus Day 0, identifying those regions which are differentially bound during differentiation in each cell line;
- (ii) intersect results from the two ChIP-seq experiments in each cell line to identify high confidence peaks for C/EBP α enrichment during differentiation;
- (iii) intersect the high confidence regions from the two cell lines to identify 3 sets of regions (Figure 5.10) which are highly enriched for C/EBP α binding specifically in EV cells (399 regions) or in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells (669 regions) or which are enriched in both cell lines (1078 regions).

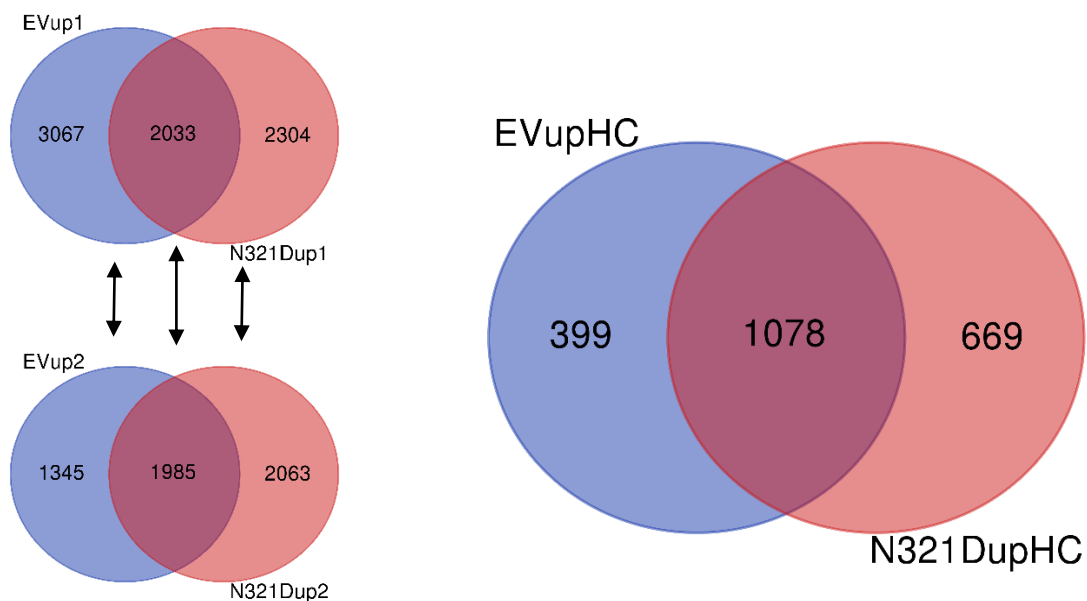


Figure 5.10 C/EBP α -bound regions enriched four-fold and intersecting two ChIP-seq experiments to establish high confidence peaks

The peak distribution of the regions in Figure 5.10, and the total peak distribution over all C/EBP α binding events can be analysed to determine whether the regions enriched by C/EBP α binding are more likely to be associated with promoters or enhancers (Table 5.1).

Table 5.1 Peak distribution of regions enriched four-fold by C/EBP α -binding

	Promoter	Intragenic	Intergenic
399 up (EV) peaks	7	217	175
669 up (N321D) peaks	11	321	337
1078 up (shared) peaks	17	436	625
All peaks	15317	53225	52933

The peak distribution listed in Table 5.1 suggests that, in comparison with all C/EBP α binding events, high confidence regions enriched four-fold for C/EBP α are more likely to be associated with intragenic and intergenic enhancers than with promoters.

Chromatin accessibility in the C/EBP α -bound regions can then be analysed as follows:

- (iv) examine acetylation coverage with H3K27Ac-binding of the 3 sets of regions (Figure 5.11);
- (v) identify regions which are highly acetylated (two-fold enrichment of H3K27Ac) in C/EBP α -enriched regions;
- (vi) map the identified regions to genes.

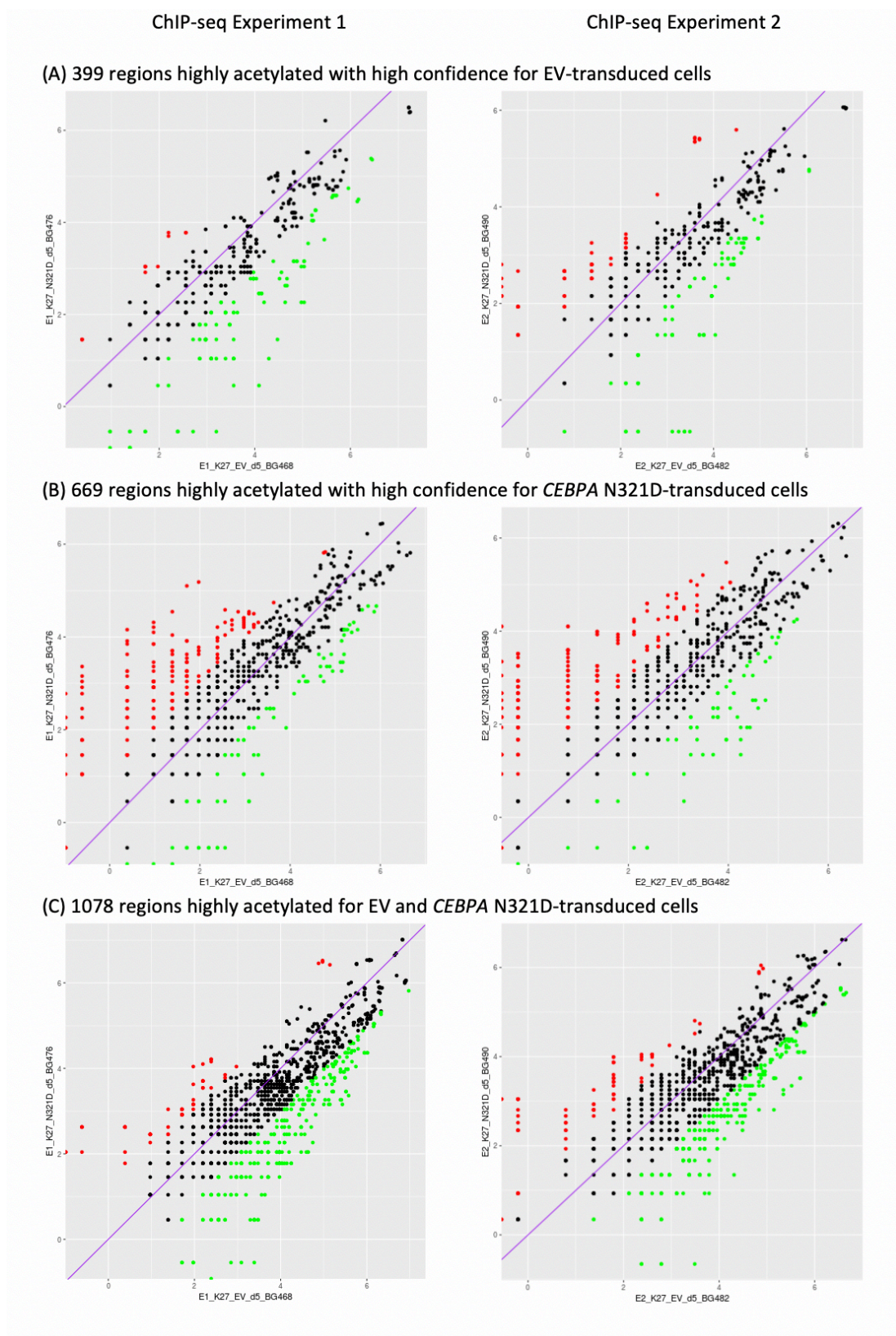


Figure 5.11 Regions enriched two-fold by H3K27Ac-binding

The following regions can then be mapped to genes: two-fold enriched in H3K27Ac in EV cells from the 399 regions in Figure 5.10, two-fold enriched in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells from the 669 regions, and two-fold enriched in EV cells from the 1078 regions. These are intersected between the two experiments to identify genes enriched for H3K27Ac with high confidence to give the following results (Table 5.2):

Table 5.2 High-confidence C/EBP α -bound genes associated with regions enriched two-fold for H3K27Ac

399 regions	21 genes in EV versus <i>CEBPA</i> N321D-transduced cells
669 regions	1 gene in <i>CEBPA</i> N321D versus EV-transduced cells
1078 regions	35 genes in EV versus <i>CEBPA</i> N321D-transduced cells

These genes are then intersected with genes derived from differential expression of EV versus *CEBPA*-transduced cells at Day 5 of differentiation on single cell RNA-seq, to identify genes where chromatin accessibility is associated with C/EBP α -binding and increased expression. This intersection gives only 1 high-confidence gene (*KLF6*) which is highly acetylated and bound by C/EBP α exclusively in EV-transduced cells and shows upregulation on differential expression of EV against *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells at Day 5, and 10 genes (*CLEC4B1*, *PID1*, *PLEKHM3*, *SLC29A3*, *PLEKHF2*, *MARCH1*, *ATP2B1*, *RCBTB2*, *PDE7B*, *CTSC*) which are highly acetylated in both cell lines and upregulated on differential expression of EV against mutant cells at Day 5 of differentiation in Flt3L. There are no genes which are highly acetylated in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells and downregulated on differential expression.

5.8 Discussion

5.8.1 Choice of cell type and antibody for ChIP-seq

The experimental hypothesis for our ChIP-seq experiments is that the N321D mutation resides in the bZIP domain of C/EBP α and therefore can be predicted to alter coiled-coil heptad interactions, C/EBP α binding profile and function (Pogenberg *et al*, 2014). The choice of cell type and antibody was an important consideration in designing a ChIP-seq experiment to provide reliable insights into how the altered topology of C/EBP α N321D mediates transcriptional effects. Regarding the choice of *CEBPA* N321D and EV-transduced cells, retroviral vectors integrate preferentially into transcribed regions of the genome, and bearing in mind that TF ratios play an important role in phenotype, the addition of mutant alleles to

two wildtype alleles can reasonably be hypothesised to provide useful insights into the impact of mutant *CEBPA* on TF binding profiles. Theoretically a more useful comparator for the N321D model would be the *CEBPA* WT-transduced cell line, which would integrate an additional WT allele, but our early experiments demonstrated that the integration of *CEBPA* WT into the Hoxb8-FL cell line resulted in an altered initial phenotype in the presence of estradiol, meaning that the two cell lines started from a different phenotype. An additional experimental challenge regarding *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells was rapid differentiation and clonal selection so that it was difficult to obtain sufficient representative cells for ChIP-seq after 5 days of differentiation. One possible experiment would have been to compare binding profiles of *CEBPA* WT and EV-transduced cells at Day 0 before differentiation, but this would have failed to elucidate the leukaemic effects of the N321D mutation during differentiation. For these reasons, it was decided to perform ChIP-seq experiments to compare EV and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells at Days 0 and 5 of differentiation. It is also important to emphasise that this experimental model captures the effects of one specific C-terminal mutant isoform of C/EBP α . In fact, *CEBPA*-mutated leukaemia most commonly combines a C-terminal mutation with an N-terminal mutation, and recapitulation of this *in vivo* co-operative mutational profile would require a more complex cellular model with a second non-GFP reporter molecule and an alternative epitope tag, and then an analysis of which regulatory regions were bound by antibodies to both epitopes but not by C/EBP α antibody.

The other important decision in experimental design was antibody selection. The C/EBP α antibody was well-validated by our group and others, but it cannot discriminate between wildtype C/EBP α and the single altered amino acid in C/EBP α N321D. For this reason, it was decided to add a FLAG tag into the mutant plasmid construct and thereby to identify DNA regions bound specifically by the mutant TF rather than by wildtype. The FLAG tag is a hydrophilic polypeptide which can theoretically alter conformation and function of C/EBP α N321D. However, the tag is short (8 amino acids), and reassurance is provided by the fact that it was also included in the *CEBPA* WT construct, which showed a very different phenotype to the mutant, thus suggesting that the FLAG tag (shared between the two constructs) had no overriding dominant effect.

5.8.2 Qualitative changes are observed in binding events during differentiation of EV and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells

FLAG binding events increase in both experimental replicates during differentiation of *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells, but interestingly there is no significant global increase in binding events for C/EBP α transcription factor during differentiation of either EV or *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells (Figure 5.4). This suggests that closed chromatin opens up specifically to mutant C/EBP α N321D during differentiation, but that effects on wildtype C/EBP α binding are more subtle. It was therefore decided to subject C/EBP α binding profiles to more nuanced qualitative analysis by integrating ChIP-seq results with scRNA-seq expression profiles and secondly by looking at H3 Lysine 27 acetylation signatures to ask whether genes bound by C/EBP α in EV and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells can be distinguished by transcriptional activity.

Our previous gene expression analysis described genes which were dysregulated in EV and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cell lines, however integrating these results with ChIP-seq allows us to determine genes which are direct targets of C/EBP α -mediated transcription. Two distinct approaches identify a common set of genes which can be considered with high confidence to be directly bound and transcribed by C/EBP α and which have altered gene expression in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells. These include genes which are associated with DC differentiation and function (*AXL*, *CD300a*, *ITGAM*, *TLR2*, *CTSB* and *NOTCH2*), with HSPC cell state (*TGFB1*, *MYB*), and with cell cycle control (*CXCR4*, *KLF4* and *E2F2*), suggesting overall that the *CEBPA* N321D mutation promotes a transcriptional signature which favours HSPC cell state and acts in opposition to DC differentiation. In addition, C/EBP α N321D TF binds directly to genes such as *SPI1*, *IRF8* and *RUNX1* which show no dysregulated gene expression in our experiments but which are known to encode important partner TFs that interact with wildtype C/EBP α to direct DC differentiation.

5.8.3 Intersection between C/EBP α -bound regions and H3K27Ac-bound regions identifies transcriptionally relevant genes

It is well-established that the majority of TF binding events do not have functional relevance in every tissue-type or cell-type, and therefore we employed H3K27Ac coverage to identify those regions where C/EBP α -binding was associated with transcriptionally active chromatin. One important caveat to interpreting the correlation between regions enriched for C/EBP α

and regions enriched for H3K27Ac is that the regulatory regions selected for by H3 Lysine 27 acetylation include enhancers which may be located many kilobases distant from the relevant transcribed gene. By contrast to enhancers, promoter regions are located around the transcriptional initiation site (Smale *et al*, 2003), bind RNA polymerase II, and can be selected by H3 Lysine 4 trimethylation (H3K4me3) (Sharifi-Zarchi *et al*, 2017). It would be interesting to conduct a future experiment with H3K4me3 ChIP antibody to compare promoter-driven binding profiles between EV and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells, particularly as these promoter regions would correlate more reliably with associated gene loci. Both H3K27Ac and H3K4me3 have been employed by others to analyse TF binding in dendritic cells (Wan *et al*, 2015). Nevertheless, the Göttgens group has experience of using the H3K27Ac ChIP antibody to identify binding sites which are transcriptionally active and therefore likely to have functional relevance.

When analysing regions in all cell lines which are bound by C/EBP α and which have increased coverage with H3K27Ac, we find these peaks to be enriched for intragenic and intergenic locations, suggesting that C/EBP α -binding regions with transcriptionally active chromatin are specific for enhancer rather than promoter regions. This corresponds with previous work by Heinz *et al* which showed that the majority of PU.1 and C/EBP α binding sites which localised to promoters demonstrated similar occupancy levels in B cell and macrophages, whereas differentially bound sites were located in distal enhancer sites (Heinz *et al*, 2010). However, intersection of C/EBP α -binding and H3K27 acetylation data with gene expression data from single cell RNA-seq identifies very few genes which demonstrate differential expression associated with increased acetylation in regions identified by C/EBP α peaks. This can possibly be explained by the three dimensional folding configuration of DNA, which means that an acetylated region or a C/EBP α peak may not correspond to the closest gene which is called by that peak. In this case, it is hypothesised that acetylation is happening at enhancers which are intergenic and so distal that peak-calling does not correctly identify genes which have increased transcriptional activity. This could be tested by chromosome conformation capture-on-chip methods such as 4C (Simonis *et al*, 2006) to identify the spatial distribution of chromatin in EV and *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells. In addition, comparing acetylation profiles between the two conditions may not be informative where, for instance, H3K27 acetylation profiles are similar at a particular gene locus in both conditions, but C/EBP α binding at that locus happens preferentially in one condition, particularly when we remember

that C/EBP α is thought to be a pioneer factor which is capable of engaging nucleosomes and closed chromatin (Hasemann *et al*, 2014). Another challenge is that we cannot know whether C/EBP α -binding events in the *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells are caused by wildtype or mutant C/EBP α . Lastly, it is reasonable to speculate that some of the transcriptional effects of the N321D mutation in the bZIP domain are associated not with DNA-binding profiles but rather with sequestering of cooperative transcription factors, and in this case transcriptional activity would not necessarily correlate with C/EBP α -binding events. It would certainly be interesting to employ co-crystallisation methods to study interactions at the LZ domain with TF partners, but such work is outside the scope of this thesis.

6. Restructuring, curating and expanding ChIP-seq datasets in CODEX database: New insights into cell-intrinsic and TF-mediated effects during human haematopoiesis

6.1 Introduction

Following the success of the human genome project, the scientific community has engaged in large-scale consortium projects such as ENCODE (ENCyclopedia Of DNA Elements) and ImmGen (Immunological Genome Project) to computationally reconstruct gene regulatory networks in different cell types. However, an alternative methodology has developed which builds up large databases by collating data from multiple small-scale projects and even individual experiments. Examples of this approach include Heat*seq which displays interactive correlation heatmaps from thousands of experiments using different cell types in human, mouse and drosophila (Devailly *et al*, 2016) and BloodSpot which includes gene expression profiles of normal and malignant haematopoiesis in murine and human cells (Machado *et al*, 2016). Similarly, SBR-Blood incorporates data from micro-array and NGS (RNA-seq, Methyl-Seq and ChIP-seq) experiments to describe cell-type specific analysis of regulatory mechanisms in mouse haematopoiesis (Lichtenberg *et al*, 2016). Specific databases have been constructed to analyse gene expression in stem cells, such as StemMapper (Pinto *et al*, 2018) which includes 166 transcriptomes generated on Affymetrix microarray technology and manually curated from NCBI's Gene Expression Omnibus (GEO). More recently, CancerSEA has collected RNA-seq data from 41,900 single cells for cancer-related scRNA-seq datasets on SRA, GEO and ArrayExpress (Yuan *et al*, 2019).

CODEX (Sanchez-Castillo *et al*, 2015) is a database constructed by the Göttgens group which collects raw data on transcription factor (TF)-binding and histone modification from multiple NGS experiments, processes them with a uniform standardised bioinformatics pipeline, and permits manual curation to ensure accuracy. Important features of the CODEX database are that it is user-friendly, includes a web-crawler which facilitates automated reports of relevant new samples from the GEO database, allows individuals to freely interrogate CODEX and compare data from their own experiments, and allows visualisation of data on the UCSC Genome Browser. CODEX is a database which has evolved from an original dataset of 53 ChIP-

seq samples (Hannah *et al*, 2011) and later more than 300 ChIP-seq studies from murine haematopoietic cells (Ruau *et al*, 2013). The latest iteration of CODEX includes data for mouse and human cells from over 1000 ChIP-seq, DNase-seq and RNA-seq samples, and is organized into two separate databases for blood cells (HAEMCODE) and embryonic stem cells (ESCODE) (Sanchez-Castillo *et al*, 2015).

The integration of TF-binding and histone modification data has provided novel insights into cooperative networks of haematopoietic gene regulation, for instance the finding that FLI1 and RUNX1 pair collaboratively in HSPCs (Beck *et al*, 2013) and that GATA2, GFI1B and FOS cooperatively induce haemogenic reprogramming in fibroblasts (Gomes *et al*, 2018). Our hypothesis is that an enhanced understanding of transcriptional networks regulating human haematopoiesis in general, and haematological malignancy in particular, can be achieved by curating the HAEMCODE database and inputting experimental data from more blood cell types.

6.2 Manual curation of human blood cells in HAEMCODE

The first stage of this process was manual curation of the existing database to ensure that all included cell types in HAEMCODE were blood cells, and that experimental data was annotated correctly.

Initial curation of 648 human datasets in the HAEMCODE database revealed a significant number (171) of non-haematopoietic datasets which were subsequently removed, including cervical and breast cancer as well as early embryonic tissues such as mesoderm and endoderm. The haematopoietic datasets included 18 RNAse and 13 DNase experiments, which were excluded from further analysis. The remaining 446 experiments from HAEMCODE described TF-binding and histone modification. Curation involved detailed study of each cell type, subtype, tissue ontology from BRENDA database (BTO), experimental conditions, and additional details. For instance, experiments employing the K562 cell line were classified as erythrocytic leukaemia cells, but following curation CODEX users can now see additional detail that this cell line was originally cultured from a patient with CML in blast crisis and cells are positive for BCR:ABL mutation. In many instances, rigorous curation required literature review, for instance TF-binding experiments from GSE46044 used a Tet-inducible model of the

U937 cell line which was originally derived from a patient with histiocytic lymphoma and has been described by some authors as a “leukaemic monocyte lymphoma” cell line (Ishikawa *et al*, 2012). However, literature review revealed that it is employed as an immortalised monocyte progenitor cell which can differentiate into functional macrophages (Sproston *et al*, 2018), and therefore was recategorised as a monocyte in the HAEMCODE database. Literature review proved an effective method for curation, although it was difficult to categorise a ChIP-seq experiment in one instance because it used the Ficoll-Paque method to isolate peripheral blood mononuclear cells and this method cannot distinguish between mononuclear cells which include T-cells, B-cells, NK cells and monocytes (Wang *et al*, 2013).

By employing the CODEX web crawler and by manually searching GEO for new human haematopoietic cell lines, with a specific emphasis on haematological malignancy, we then identified additional 197 datasets. The previous published data (A) and the new collated data (B) is summarised below in Figure 6.1.

Since less than 5% of the genome encodes proteins, and many mutations and single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) map to the non-coding portion of the genome, there is an urgent need to annotate non-coding DNA. A key metric that can be employed to characterise the utility of a data resource of ChIP-Seq experiments is the fraction of the genome for which it provides annotation, calculated by identifying total bases with non-zero coverage for all TFs in all human samples in the database. In terms of TF binding data, annotation of the human genome has increased from 9.94% since CODEX was previously published (Sanchez-Castillo *et al*, 2015) to 14.42% after our curation and expansion of the human HAEMCODE database. Of note, this is 3-fold higher than the portion of the genome that is coding, and therefore of potentially broad interest to the wider haematology research community. The utility of identifying regions of TF binding is that it provides evidence of regulatory circuitry at the locus in question, and additionally this information can suggest transcriptional relevance if mutations or SNPs are identified in non-coding DNA by genome wide association studies (GWAS).

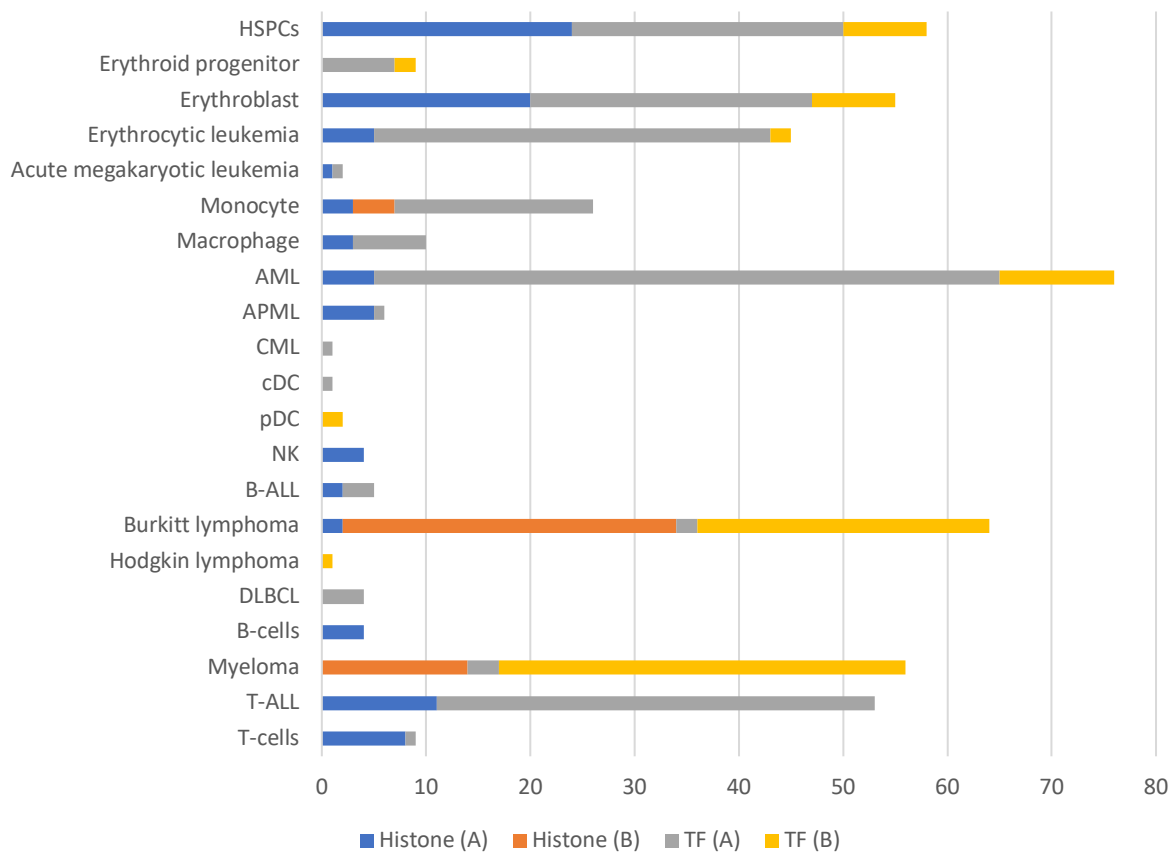


Figure 6.1 Summary of numbers of ChIP-seq experiments in (A) previous iteration of CODEX and (B) additional data incorporated during my review

6.3 Constructing global heat maps for human blood cells reveals pairwise correlations between cell types in TF-binding data but not in histone modification data

Heat maps were generated by R Hannah from the Göttgens lab. Briefly, she combined peaks from all TF samples and generated heat maps where hierarchical clustering was based on using a DICE coefficient matrix to establish pairwise correlation between binding patterns across regions. This was a binary process based on presence / absence of each peak, and linking these peaks to specific genomic loci using Model-based Analysis of ChIP-Seq (MACS) (Zhang *et al*, 2008).

The first heat map was generated using TF data from all cell types:

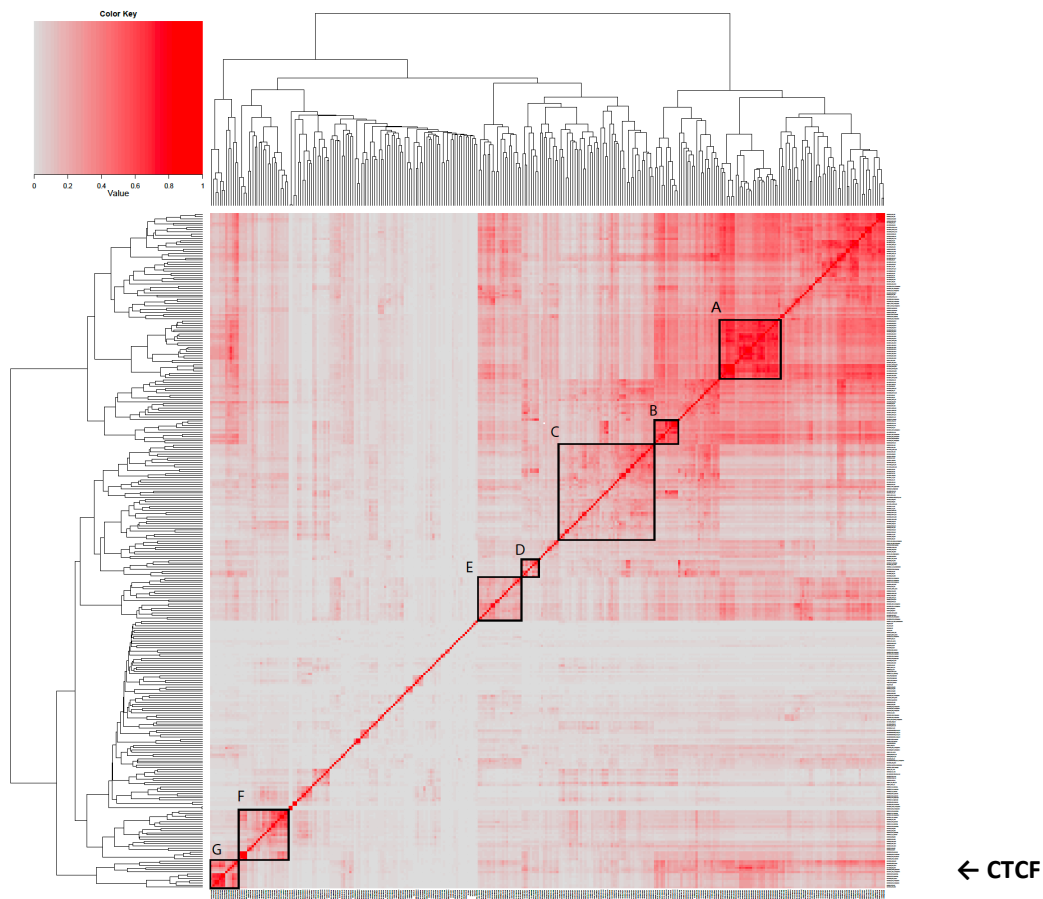


Figure 6.2 Heat map showing pairwise correlations between ChIP-seq profiles for transcription factors in all human blood cells on CODEX (A) is myeloma cells, (B) is T-cell lymphoma cell lines, (C) is AML and HPC cells, (D) includes macrophages and dendritic cells, (E) is diverse in cell type and TF identity, (F) is erythroblasts, (G) is diverse cell types with over-representation of **CTCF**

This first heat map permitted several interesting observations. Firstly, CODEX creates distinct TF clusters on heat maps, for instance clusters A, C and F in Figure 6.2 denote myeloma cells, AML and haematopoietic precursors cells, and erythroblasts respectively. Secondly, the unified standardised CODEX pipeline is capable of clustering TF binding data for similar cell types from distinct experimental sources, for instance Figure 6.2B clusters together Jurkat cells and CUTLL1 cells which are both distinct T-cell lymphoma cell lines. Thirdly, there are clusters where diverse cell lines cluster together with a shared TF, for instance cluster G is a cluster of myeloma, erythroid progenitor, Burkitt lymphoma, haematopoietic precursor cell, and K562 cell lines based on binding patterns from the shared transcription factor CTCF. CTCF is a highly conserved 11 zinc finger TF which binds to about 60,000 sites in the human genome (Chen *et al*, 2012) and there is evidence that it plays important roles in HSCs (Kim *et al*, 2017), myeloid cells (Ouboussad *et al*, 2013) and lymphoid cells (Heath *et al*, 2008); cluster G suggests

that the global binding profile of this TF is able to create pairwise correlations across various cell lines. This suggests that CTCF binding, at least in part, is similar across different haematopoietic lineages, perhaps in agreement with its role in establishing/maintaining coarse-grained chromatin domains.

By contrast, cluster E in Figure 6.2 denotes pairwise correlations between diverse cell lines with different TFs that nonetheless show pairwise correlation in their chromatin binding profiles. Lastly, cluster D shows a pairwise correlation between the TF binding patterns of macrophages, plasmacytoid dendritic (pDC) and conventional dendritic (cDC) cells, with the pDC ChIP-seq profile having a closer pairwise correlation with lymphoid experiments and the cDC profile being more closely correlated with myeloid experiments. Overall, these results show that CODEX's standardised bioinformatics pipeline is capable of bringing together raw data from multiple ChIP-seq experiments carried out under different conditions by different centres, and that pairwise correlations can be found based both on cell type and TF.

The Hardison group's S3norm method (Xiang *et al*, 2018) was then employed to infer a heat map of pairwise correlations between histone modification profiles in HAEMCODE (Figure 6.3). By contrast with TF binding profiles, which are commonly characterised in binary terms as peak present or peak absent, enrichment for a given histone modification is generally thought of as a more quantitative process, and therefore it is more challenging to deal with sequencing depth (SD) and signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) when modelling chromatin accessibility landscapes. S3norm employs nonlinear transformation to simultaneously normalise both SDs and SNRs between data sets (Xiang *et al*, 2018), and therefore provides superior performance for H3K4me3 ChIP-seq profiles in comparative studies of normalisation, particularly with reference to SNR.

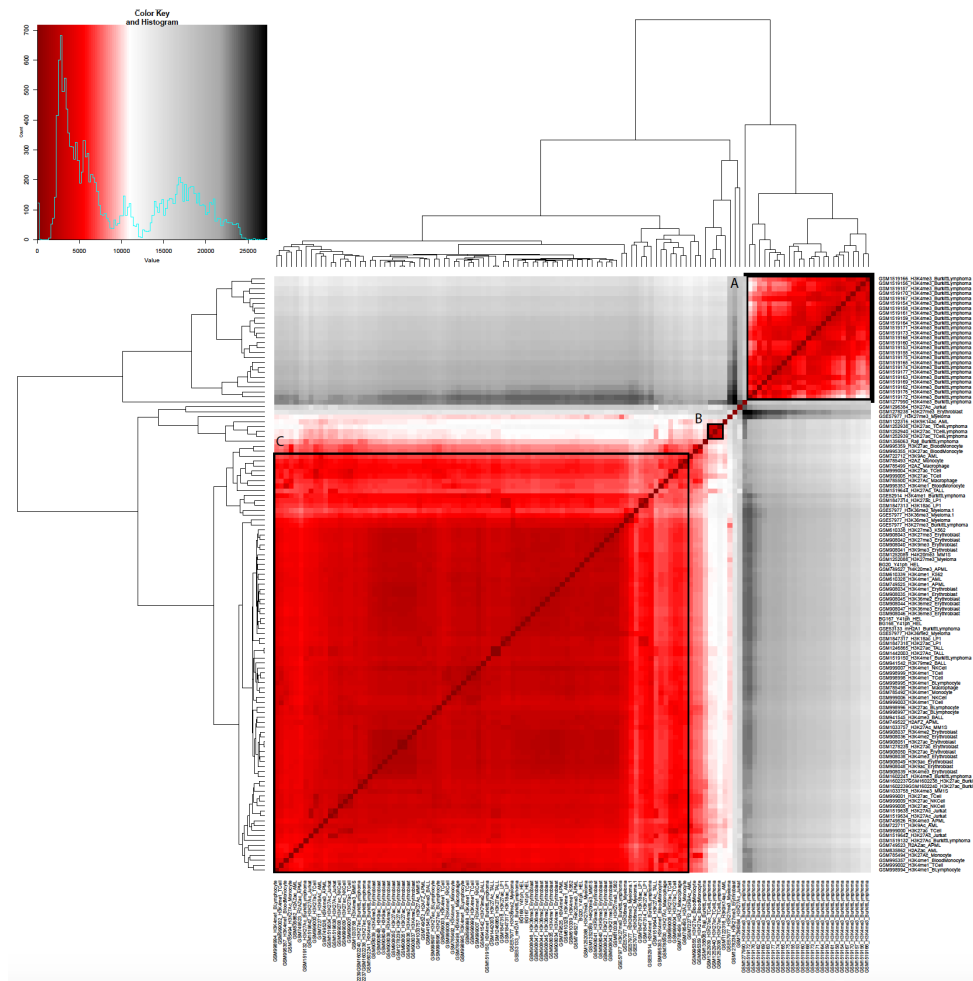


Figure 6.3 Heat map showing pairwise correlations between ChIP-seq profiles for histone modifications in all human blood cells on CODEX (A) is Burkitt Lymphoma cells, (B) is T-cell lymphoma cell lines, (C) is diverse cell lines with different histone markers

Initial correlation analysis of histone modification experiments from HAEMCODE is shown in Figure 6.3, and gave a very distinct cluster of Burkitt Lymphoma cells bound by H3K4me3. For this reason, it was decided to remove the Burkitt cell line experiment from the histone heat map and rerun pairwise correlations using the S3norm method to uncover any masked correlations between histone modifications for other cell types (Figure 6.4):

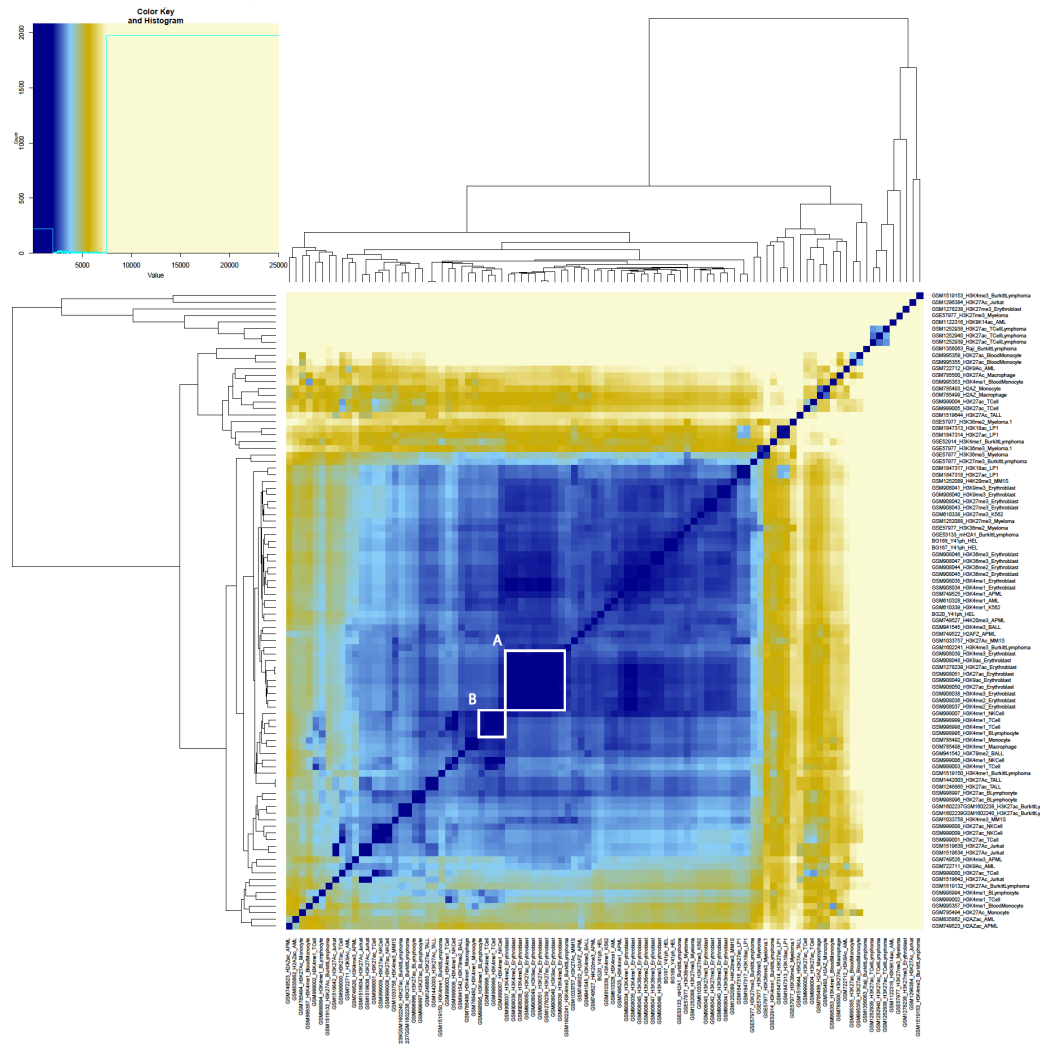


Figure 6.4 Heat map showing pairwise correlations between ChIP-seq profiles for histone modifications in all human blood cells on CODEX after excluding experiments from cluster A in Figure 6.3 (A) is erythroblasts, (B) is NK, T-cell, B-cell and monocyte cell lines

By contrast with TF-binding experiments, histone modification experiments do not cluster sharply by pairwise correlations. Of note, the Burkitt Lymphoma cluster A in Figure 6.3 is derived from one experimental protocol and employs only one histone marker, whereas other experiments with Burkitt Lymphoma cells do not correlate on the heat map. This may be because of the aforementioned challenges related to peak-calling with chromatin accessibility data.

6.4 Constructing heat maps for normal and malignant human blood cells reveals distinct clusters in normal human blood cells but loss of pairwise correlation in malignant cells

We then employed the DICE coefficient matrix to look at subsets of the TF data, initially by looking separately at normal (Figure 6.5) and malignant (Figure 6.6) human blood cells:

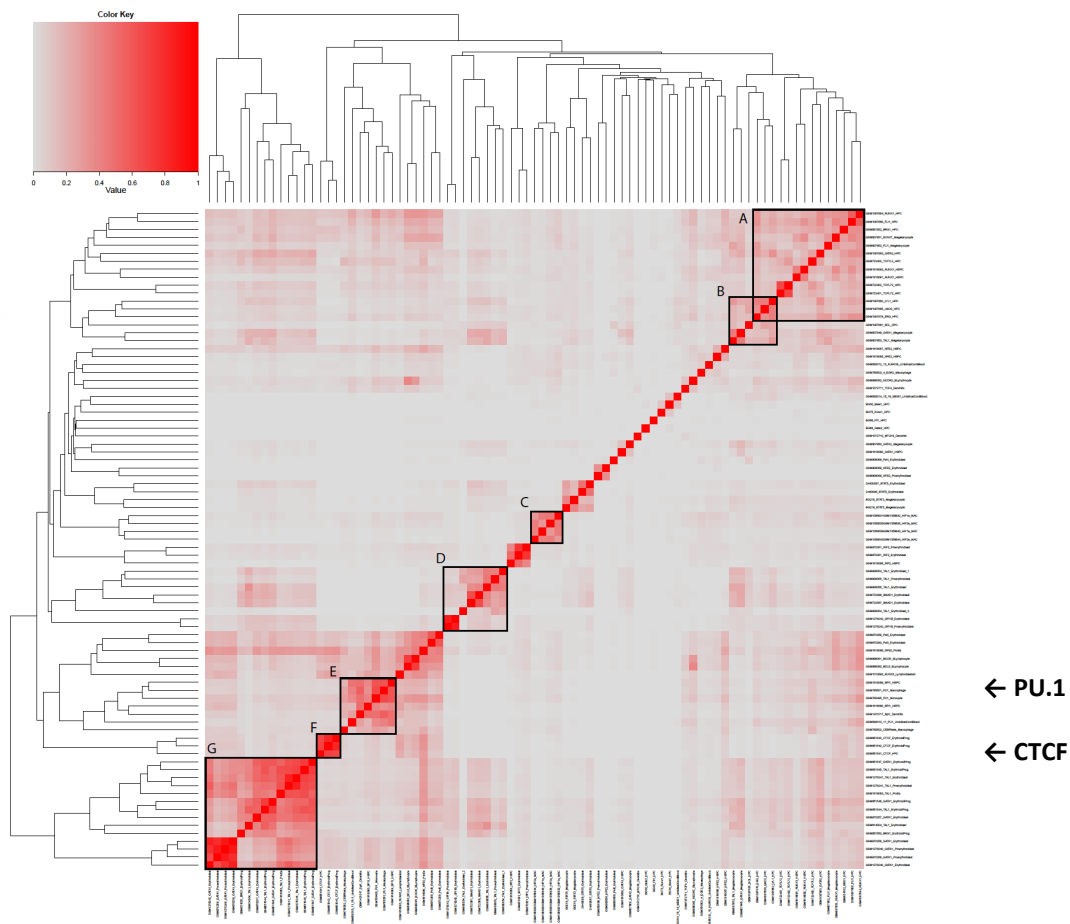


Figure 6.5 Heat map showing pairwise correlations between ChIP-seq profiles for transcription factors in non-malignant human blood cells on CODEX (A) and (B) are mostly HPCs and HSPCs with some megakaryocyte cells, (C) is macrophages, (D) is erythroblasts, (E) is macrophages, monocytes, and dendritic cells with **PU.1**, (F) is HPCs and erythroid progenitors with **CTCF**, (G) is pro-erythroblasts, erythroblasts and erythroid progenitors

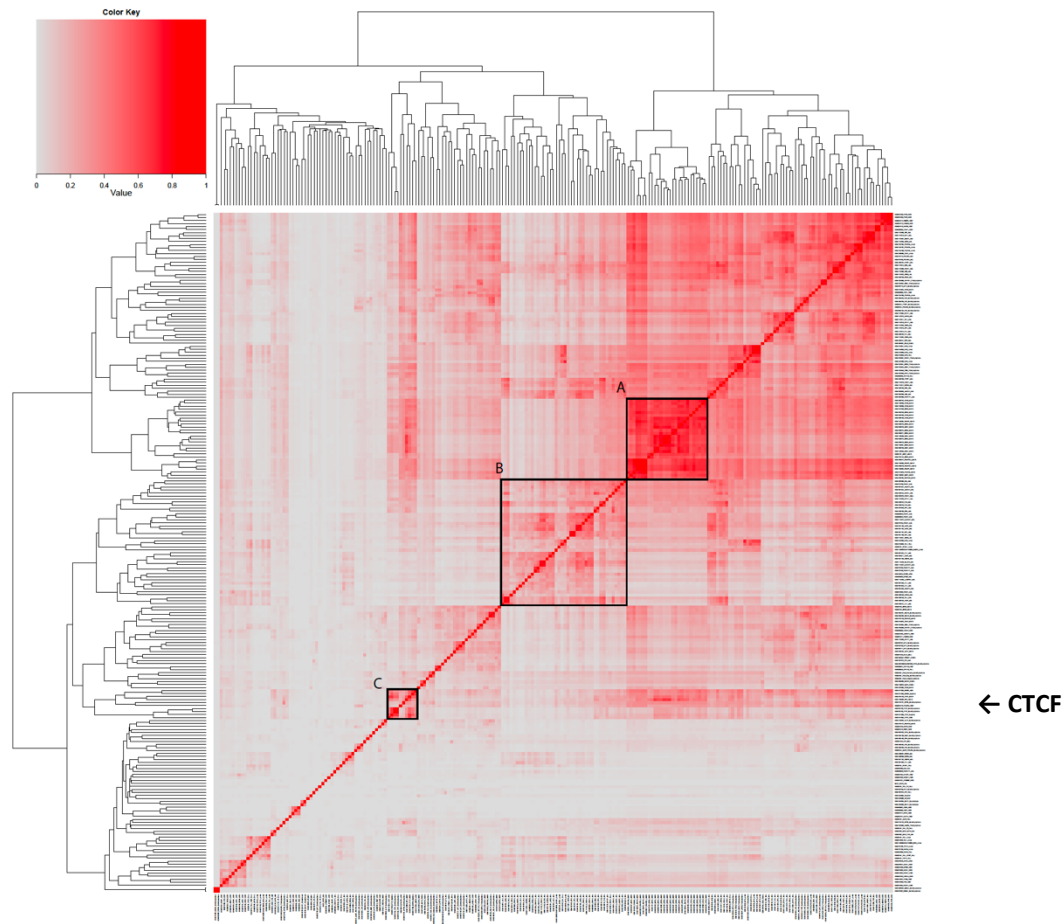


Figure 6.6 Heat map showing pairwise correlations between ChIP-seq profiles for transcription factors in malignant human blood cells on CODEX (A) is MM.1S multiple myeloma cell line, (B) is mostly AML but a few T-ALL and Jurkat cells, (C) includes Burkitt Lymphoma, myeloma and K561 cell lines with over-representation by CTCF

Non-malignant cells in Figure 6.5 pair into discrete clusters which are functionally and biologically distinct, ranging from HPCs to erythroid cells. For instance, in cluster E several cells with immune function cluster together. These pairwise correlations are much more difficult to elucidate on TF peak profiles in malignant cells (Figure 6.6), and we can hypothesise that this may be because the normal function and transcriptional wiring of these cells is disrupted. The only cells which form a distinct and unique cluster are myeloma cells, which despite somatic hypermutation and phenotypic diversity are positioned in a very distinct plasma cell compartment (Hansmann *et al*, 2017) within the haematopoietic tree. Intriguingly, some AML cells cluster with T-ALL cells, which may reflect a common transcriptional program associated

with aggressive proliferation. In both normal and malignant cells, CTCF seems to exert a particularly powerful effect on TF binding profiles across cell lines.

6.5 Constructing heat maps for progenitor, myeloid and lymphoid compartments suggests altered TF binding profiles for different cell compartments, and an association between AML and pDCs

Given their phenotypic similarity and early developmental stage, progenitor cells demonstrated no obvious clusters based on HSPC, HPC or CD133⁺ umbilical cord blood cell types, although increased pairwise correlation can be seen in cells where DNA is bound by ERG, LYL1, and LMO2 (cluster A) or PU.1 (cluster B). One can speculate that TF effects are more prominent than cell-intrinsic effects at an early stage of differentiation before lineage commitment and definitive transcriptional programs have initiated.

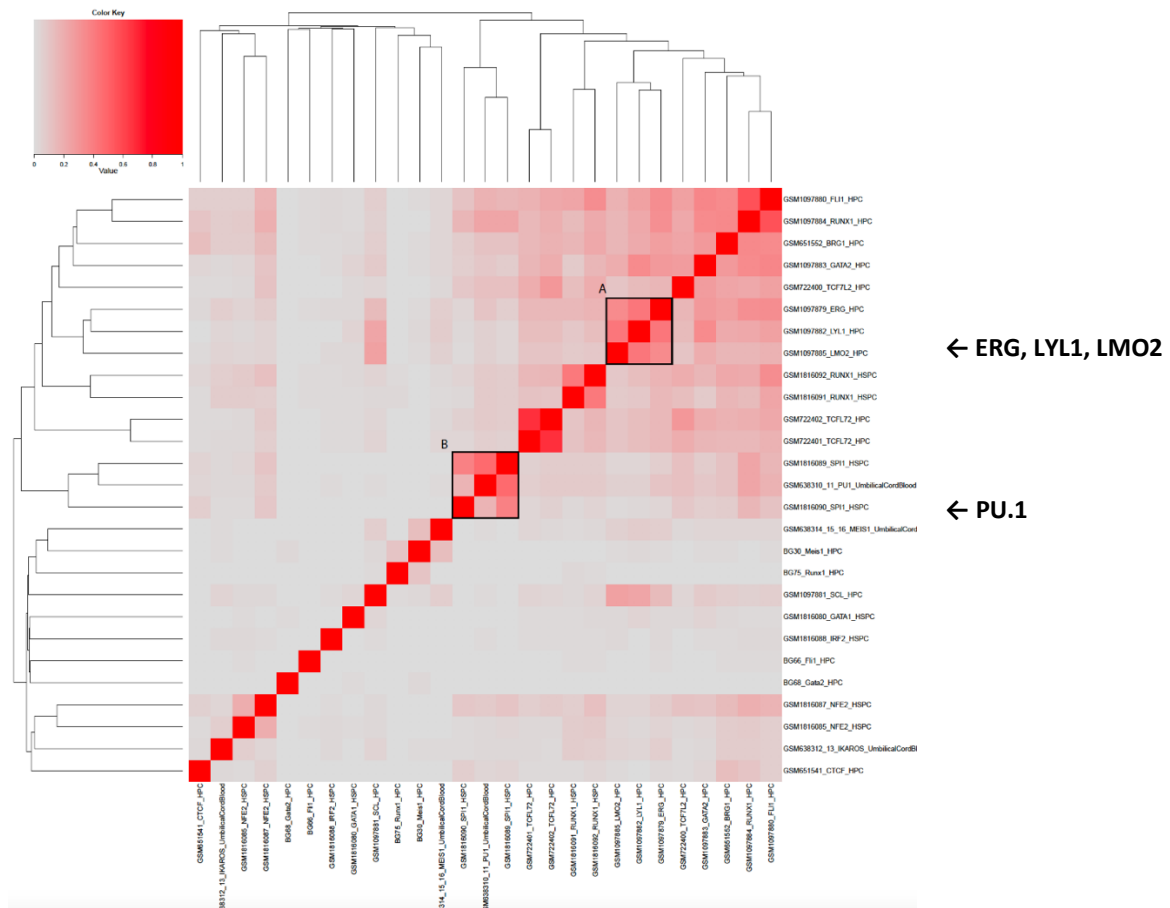


Figure 6.7 Heat map showing pairwise correlations between ChIP-seq profiles for transcription factors in human haematopoietic progenitor cells on CODEX (A) is HPC cells where DNA is bound by ERG, LYL1 and LMO2, (B) is HSPC and CD133⁺ umbilical cord blood cells with PU.1

By contrast, ChIP-seq TF binding profiles for myeloid (Figure 6.8) and lymphoid (Figure 6.9) cells demonstrate pairwise correlation based on cell lines, with particularly prominent clusters for AML, Burkitt Lymphoma, T-cell lymphoma and myeloma, although a region within cluster B in Figure 6.9 shows intense pairwise correlation for cells where DNA is bound by MYB, and cluster C shows that CTCF continues to exert a powerful effect on overall binding profile across cell lines.

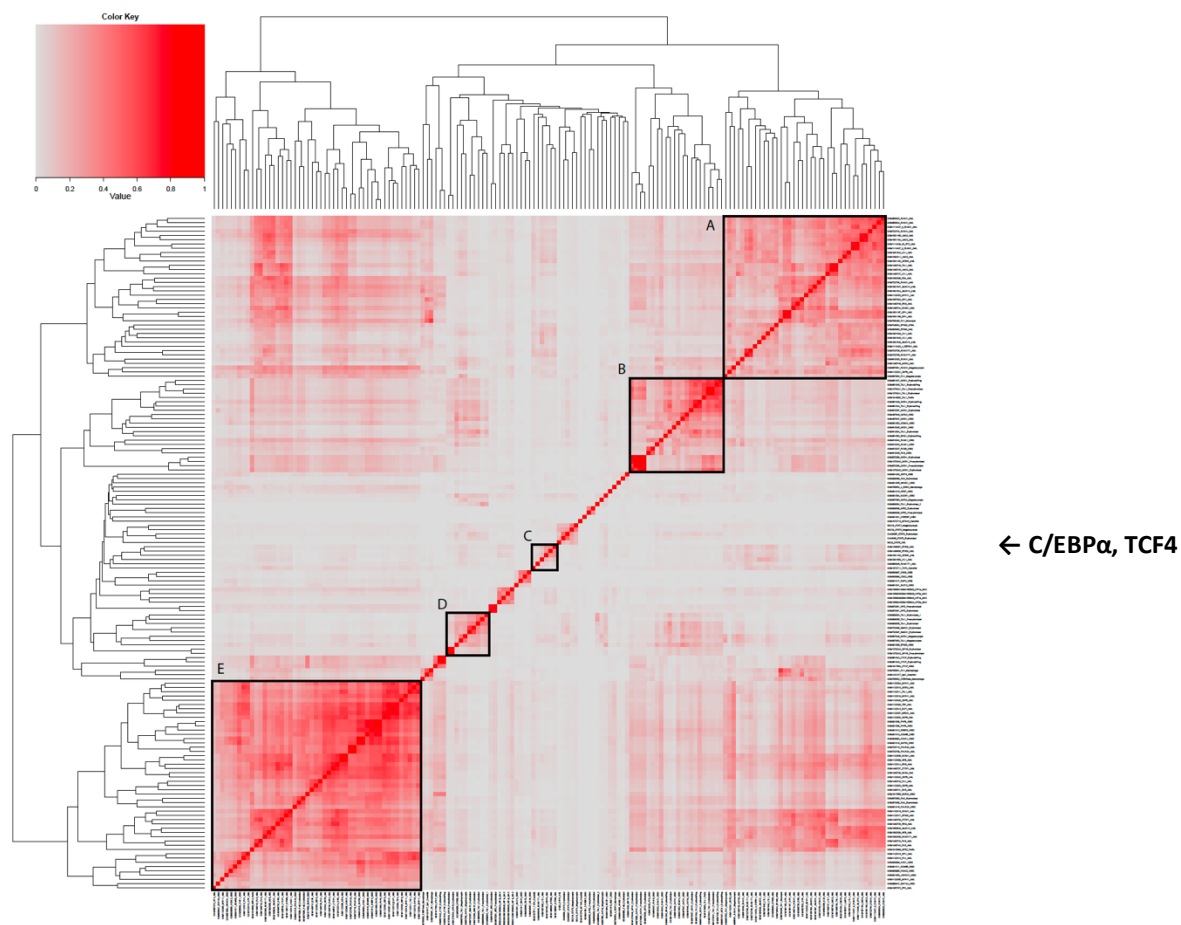


Figure 6.8 Heat map showing pairwise correlations between ChIP-seq profiles for transcription factors in human myeloid cells on CODEX (A) is AML cells, (B) is pro-erythroblasts, erythroblasts, erythroid progenitors and K562 cells, (C) is diverse cells including AML cells with **C/EBPα** and dendritic cells with **TCF4**, (D) is erythroid cells and megakaryocytes, (E) is mostly AML and K562 cells but also includes two erythroblast cells

Intriguingly, cluster C in Figure 6.8 shows pairwise correlation between AML cells where DNA is bound by C/EBPα and plasmacytoid dendritic cells where DNA is bound by TCF4. Transcription Factor 4 (TCF4) is a master regulator in pDC differentiation and is a highly

sensitive marker for blastic plasmacytoid dendritic cell neoplasm (BPDCN) (Khoury, 2018). Unfortunately, my own ChIP-seq data from the *CEBPA* N321D murine cell line cannot directly be compared to human HAEMCODE data, but it is nonetheless interesting to observe this correlation.

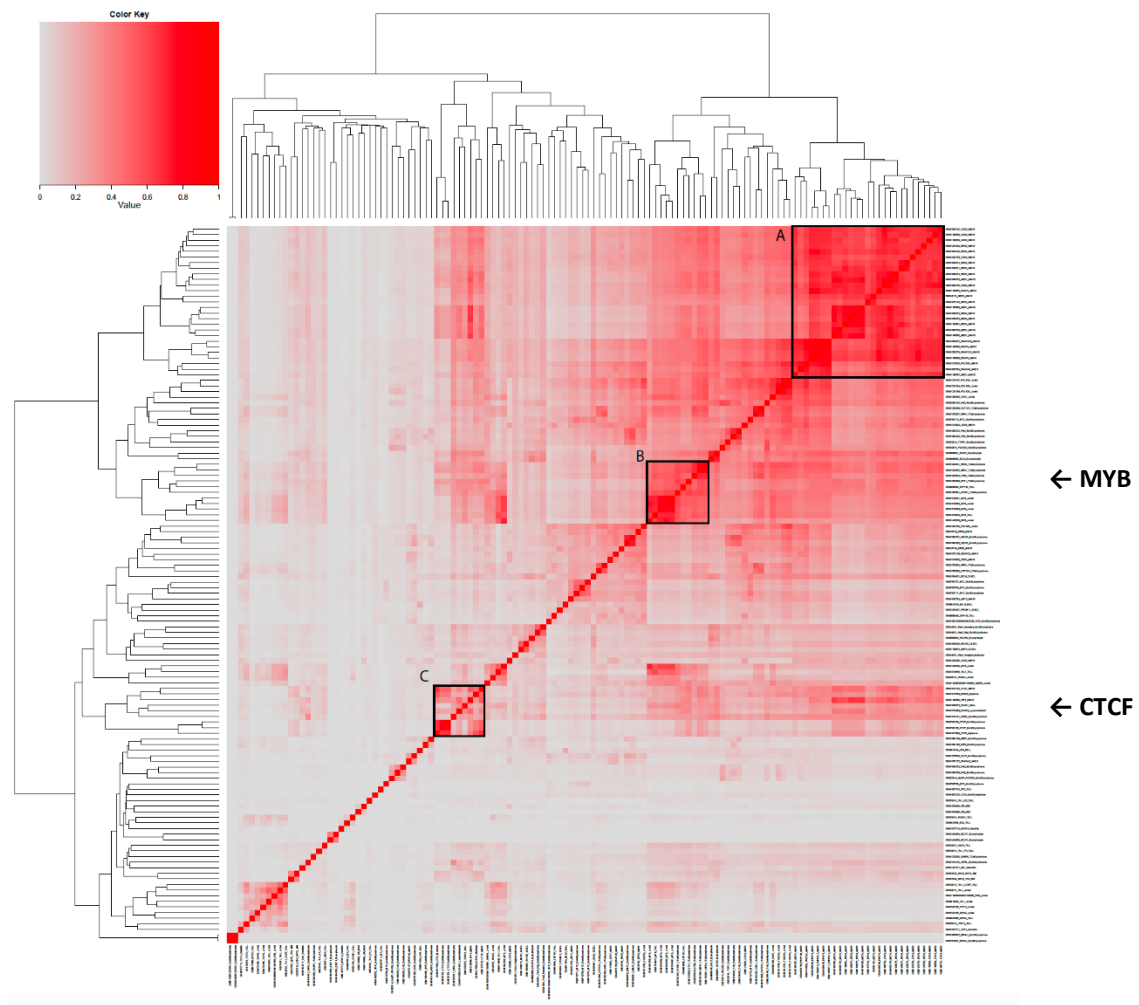


Figure 6.9 Heat map showing pairwise correlations between ChIP-seq profiles for transcription factors in human lymphoid cells on CODEX (A) is MM.1S cells, (B) T-cell lymphoma, T-ALL and Jurkat cells with MYB, (C) is Burkitt Lymphoma and myeloma cell lines with CTCF

6.6 Constructing heat maps for myeloid and lymphoid subsets within normal and malignant compartments

These subsets offer more granular data on the interaction between cell-intrinsic effects and TF-specific effects in ChIP-seq binding profiles on CODEX. For instance, in normal myeloid cells (Figure 6.10), we can observe cell-intrinsic effects for macrophages in cluster B, but we can also see TF-specific effects across cell lines with STAT5 and PU.1 in clusters A and C respectively. Clusters D and E exemplify this interaction, with cluster E forming a GATA1-specific subset within the erythroid progenitor cells in cluster D. The PU.1:GATA1 paradigm has been well-described (Graf *et al*, 2009), this paradigm has been recently challenged by employing novel reporter mouse lines and live imaging for continuous single cell long-term quantification of PU.1 and GATA1 transcription (Hoppe *et al*, 2016), but GATA1 remains an essential driver of erythroid differentiation which forms a distinct cluster on CODEX.

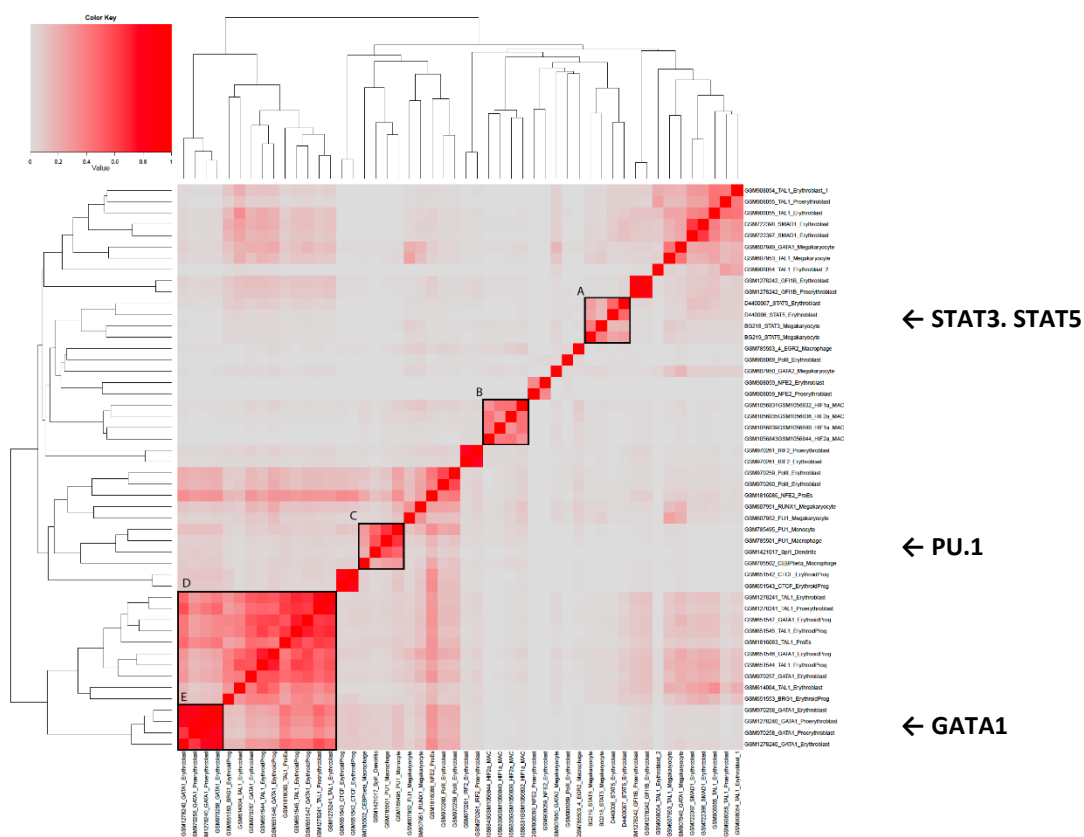


Figure 6.10 Heat map showing pairwise correlations between ChIP-seq profiles for transcription factors in normal myeloid cells on CODEX (A) is erythroblasts and megakaryocytes with STAT5 or STAT3, (B) is macrophages, (C) is macrophages and cDCs with PU.1, (D) is pro-erythroblast, erythroblast and erythroid progenitors, (E) is a subset with GATA1 only

Figure 6.11 describes pairwise correlations between ChIP-seq binding profiles for normal lymphoid cells. The distinct clusters A and C suggest that B lymphocytes and plasmacytoid dendritic cells have distinct binding profiles, however it is important to state that the small number of samples preclude any definitive conclusions.

It is worth stating here that the developmental biology of cDCs and pDCs remains a controversial question, with evidence that these cells can develop through both myeloid and lymphoid differentiation pathways. Our decision to place our cDC ChIP-seq profile in the normal myeloid compartment (Figure 6.10) and our pDC ChIP-seq profile in the normal lymphoid compartment (Figure 6.11) was based on our previous observations under the heat map in Figure 6.2 which examined TF binding profiles for all cells together. This is an example of how CODEX can be employed to define cryptic cell lines by pairwise correlation.

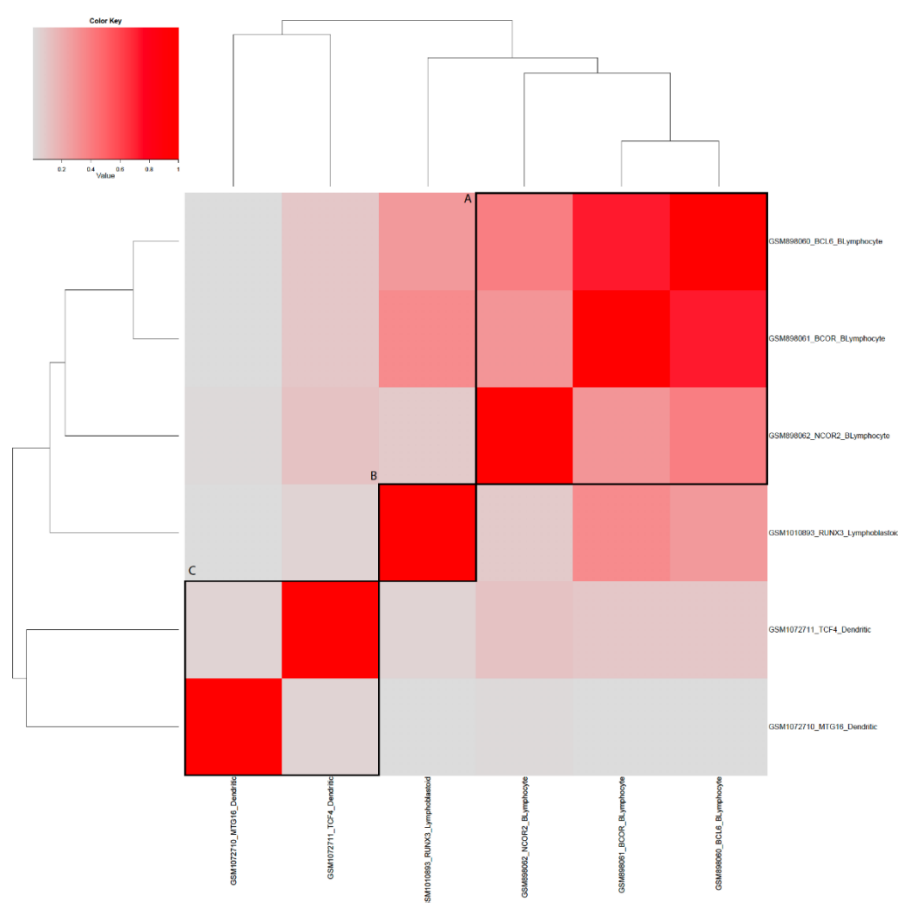


Figure 6.11 Heat map showing pairwise correlations between ChIP-seq profiles for transcription factors in normal lymphoid cells on CODEX (A) is B lymphocytes, (B) is lymphoblastoid cells, (C) is plasmacytoid dendritic cell

Figure 6.12 shows pairwise correlations between malignant myeloid cells. It is difficult to draw conclusions because this subset includes only AML and K562 cell lines, however we can observe that the most distinct clusters A and C are formed by AML cells, and that cluster B is formed by K562 cells which are driven by master regulator TFs such as GATA1, RUNX1 and FOSB.

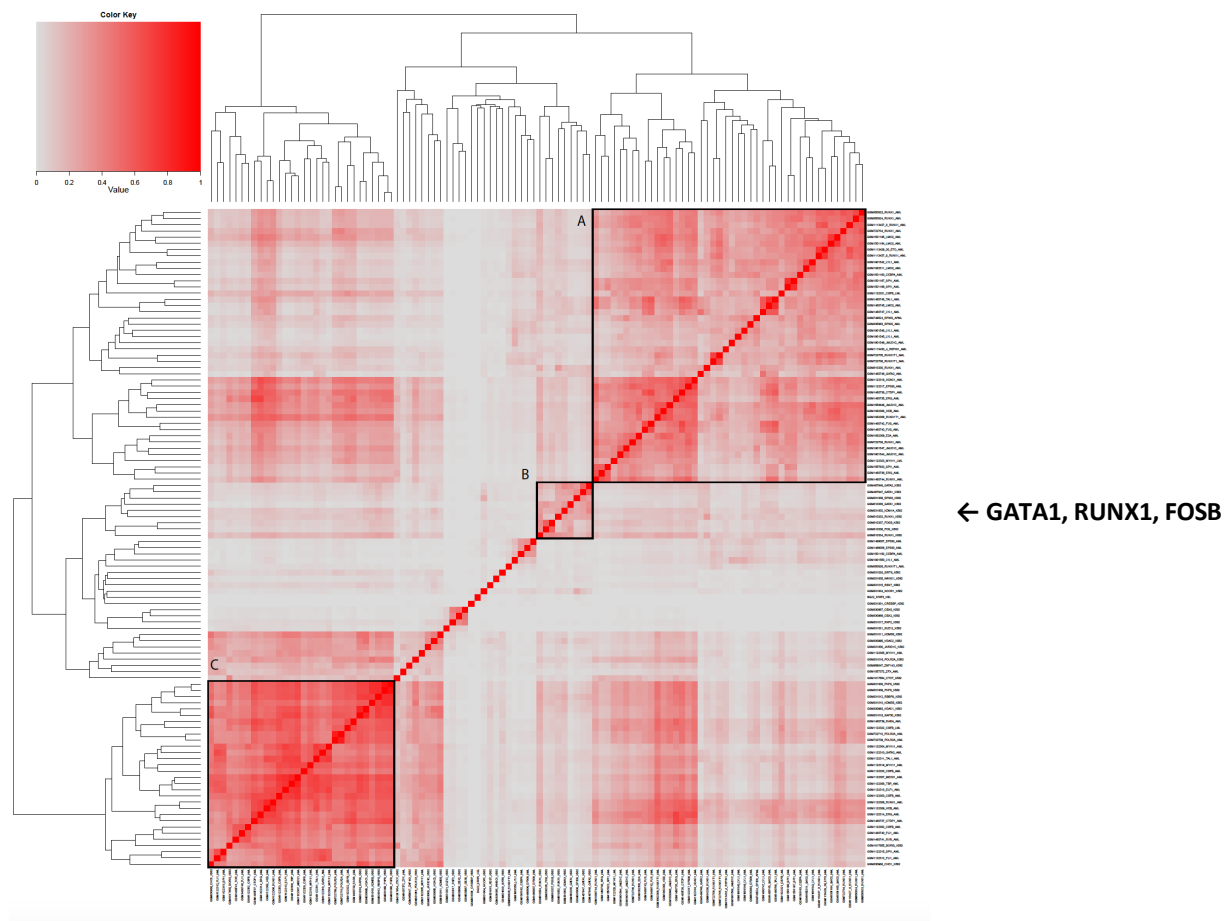


Figure 6.12 Heat map showing pairwise correlations between ChIP-seq profiles for transcription factors in malignant myeloid cells on CODEX (A) is AML, (B) is K562 cells, (C) is mostly AML cells with some K562 cells

Figure 6.13 confirms previous observations that distinct clusters are formed by binding profiles for myeloma cells (cluster A), and T-ALL and Jurkat cells (clusters B and C), and that CTCF-binding characterises pairwise correlation across Burkitt Lymphoma and myeloma cell lines (cluster D).

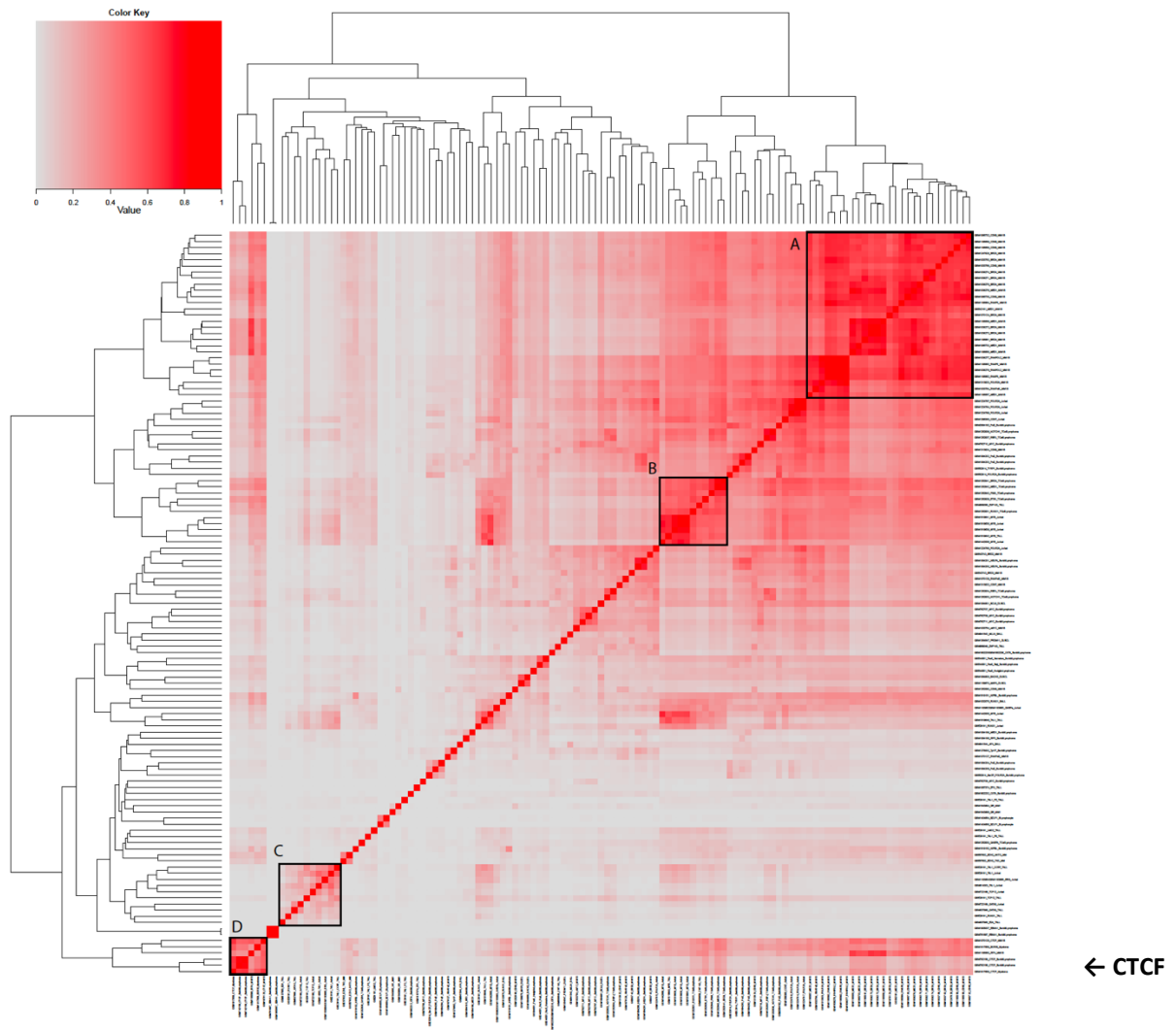


Figure 6.13 Heat map showing pairwise correlations between ChIP-seq profiles for transcription factors in malignant lymphoid cells on CODEX (A) is MM.1S cell line, (B) is T-ALL and Jurkat cells, (C) is T-ALL and Jurkat cells, (D) is Burkitt Lymphoma and myeloma cell lines with **CTCF**

6.7 Discussion

Several observations can be made through the HAEMCODE database of human blood cells. Firstly, TF DNA binding profiles form more distinct clusters on pairwise correlation of peaks than are formed by histone binding profiles, even when the S3norm protocol is employed to normalise data and account for SNR. Secondly, TF identity seems to exert more influence on pairwise correlations for TF binding profiles in progenitors, but cell-intrinsic correlations are more evident in lineage committed cells. Thirdly, TFs do nonetheless continue to influence binding profiles within clusters of similar cells, for instance we observe that GATA1 forms a distinct sub-cluster within the erythroid progenitor cluster. Fourthly, pairwise correlation of

TF DNA-binding profiles can reveal surprising correlations which merit further exploration, such as the correlation between AML cell lines and T-ALL cell lines. Fifthly, clusters are more difficult to establish in malignant cells than in normal cells, and this may be related to disruption of defined biological processes in normal cells. Lastly, CTCF has a singular capacity to maintain a consistent binding profile between different cell types in both normal and malignant cells, which may be related to its effects on chromatin looping and architecture (Hanssen *et al*, 2017).

CODEX is a powerful tool to probe DNA-binding profile data. For instance, pairwise correlations of human blood cells suggests that our pDC binding profile is closely related to lymphoid cell lines and our cDC binding profile is related to myeloid cell lines.

In addition, CODEX is able to harness experimental data from multiple sources and infer novel biological relationships. For instance, one of our findings is that CTCF has a very similar DNA binding profile in cell types as diverse as myeloma and Burkitt Lymphoma. It is known that CTCF has several binding sites within the *NANOG* locus, and therefore UCSC genome browser can be employed to visualise CODEX data for CTCF binding at this locus for myeloma and Burkitt Lymphoma cells:

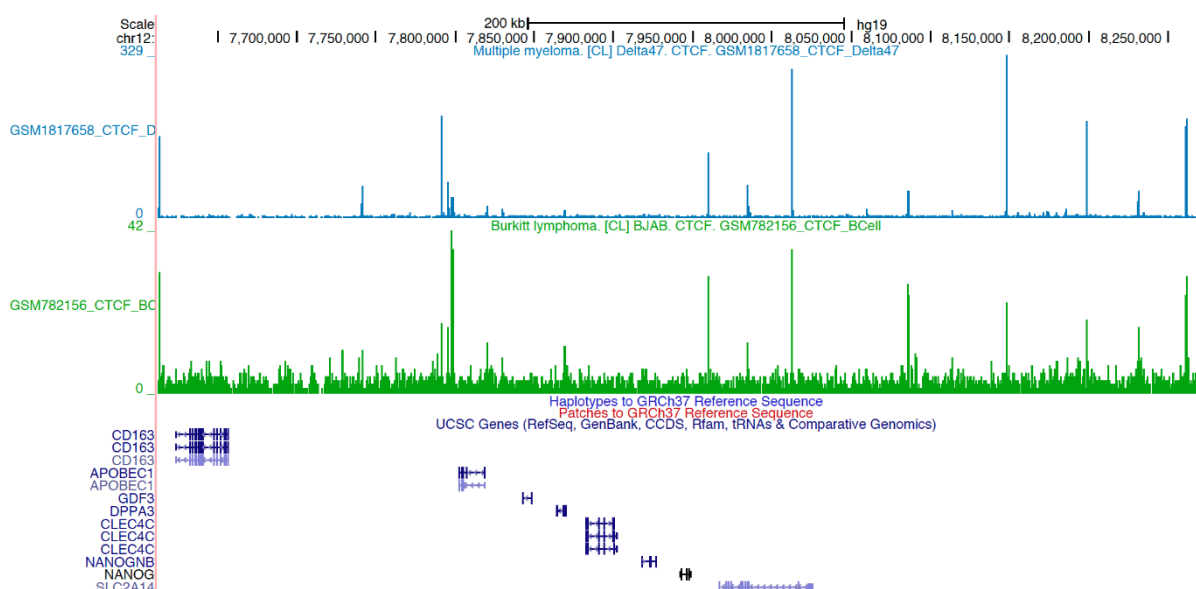


Figure 6.14 UCSC genome browser confirms similar binding profiles for CTCF at the *NANOG* locus for myeloma and Burkitt Lymphoma cell lines

One of the most useful features of CODEX is that it allows users to freely upload their own ChIP-seq data and compare it to existing CODEX profiles. For instance, Jiapaer *et al* used CODEX to identify that the promoter for long non-coding RNA LincU, which maintains embryonic stem cells in a naïve state, was bound by KLF4 and SMAD1 as well as NANOG, and then tested this transcriptional mechanism with a LincU-promoter luciferase reporter (Jiapaer *et al*, 2018).

In addition, CODEX can be employed to probe results from GWAS. For instance, if a SNP is identified which correlates with a clinical condition, then CODEX can inform users if that SNP is located at a locus with a particular TF or histone modification profile in a cell type of interest or across all cell types. Hodonsky *et al* performed a GWAS of 12,502 Hispanic people to characterise novel SNPs and genomic loci associated with red blood cell traits. They then probed this data for loci which were likely to be of functional significance, by cross-referencing with CODEX histone modification and ChIP-seq signals for key erythroid TFs (Hodonsky *et al*, 2017). Similarly, it can be informative to examine TF or histone binding profiles for mutations in non-coding regions of DNA. Another potential use of CODEX is to visualise whether altered gene expression in a specific human haematological malignancy correlates with TF binding to a particular locus.

In summary, our work has significantly expanded previous iterations of CODEX and we now have 459028795 bases with non-zero coverage, resulting in 14.8% of the genome covered with histone modification data. This latest iteration has significant potential for improving the applicability of CODEX to human disease states, as our focus has been to input data from human malignant blood cells. One of the strengths of CODEX is that its standardised pipeline permits continued expansion of data sets which will increase the power of pairwise correlations. In this regard, future work will include the incorporation of important cell types such as normal neutrophils and common malignant blood cells such as chronic lymphocytic leukaemia and follicular lymphoma. It will also be important to explore methods other than standard hierarchical clustering to identify putative groupings of experiments. Given the high-dimensional nature of the data contained in CODEX once several hundred experiments are considered, techniques now popular with single cell RNA-Seq analysis may be worth exploring, such as t-SNE and UMAP. It is also worth noting that CODEX appears to cope well with batch effects in general, since we repeatedly observe that experiments from different centres

demonstrate pairwise correlation. However, this is not always the case, suggesting that development of algorithms for batch effect removal may also be an important area for future investigations.

7. Conclusions

CEBPA double mutations confer favourable prognosis in patients with cytogenetically normal AML in the absence of *FLT3* ITD mutations, but it is important to remember that *CEBPA*-mutated AML nonetheless carries a significant mortality and morbidity burden, with a five-year overall survival of only 53% to 60% (Preudhomme *et al*, 2002, Renneville *et al*, 2009). Bearing in mind that *CEBPA* is one of the most common mutations implicated in human AML, the significant healthcare burden associated with treatment of this aggressive disease (Bewersdorf *et al*, 2019), and the fact that the mainstay of current chemotherapy regimens date from the 1970s (Evans *et al*, 1961), it can be persuasively argued that a better understanding of the biology of *CEBPA*-mutated AML is urgently required.

The cellular model for testing a specific mutational perturbation is particularly important when interpreting results of interventions. The impact of distinct models can be appreciated by the discordant results of *CEBPA* deletion on HSC function identified by Porse and colleagues who found that C/EBP α promotes HSC maintenance (Hasemann *et al*, 2014), as compared with Tenen and colleagues who employed a different model and concluded that C/EBP α inhibits HSC proliferation (Ye *et al*, 2013). Investigations of *CEBPA*-mutated AML have typically transduced myeloid-committed cells such as the 32Dcl3 cell line (Guchhait *et al*, 2003) for *in vitro* studies, and harvested cells from highly heterogeneous haematopoietic compartments such as bone marrow mononuclear cells (Togami *et al*, 2015) or foetal hepatocytes (Bereshchenko *et al*, 2009) for *in vivo* investigations. We have successfully created a novel *CEBPA*-mutated cell line which has several advantages over previous *in vitro* models. Firstly, our conditional model is based on a LMPP-like cell line which replicates a relatively early stage of haematopoiesis and is capable of reconstituting myeloid, lymphoid, and dendritic cell (DC) lineages. This is relevant because *CEBPA* is implicated as an early driver mutation in *de novo* AML, as evidenced by *CEBPA*-mutated clones being present in relapse, and we are more likely to recapitulate pre-leukaemic changes at the LMPP stage than in committed myeloid progenitors. Furthermore, several lines of investigation suggest that C/EBP α -mediated lineage specification is a relatively early event, for instance Welner *et al* found that C/EBP α was required for differentiation from HSPCs to common dendritic progenitors, but C/EBP α deletion in mature DCs had no effect on their numbers or function (Welner *et al*, 2013).

Secondly, the clonal murine Hoxb8-FL model provides a reproducible and homogenous cellular model which avoids the uncertainty associated with employing a highly heterogeneous cell compartment. Thirdly, we have employed the same model to generate Empty Vector and *CEBPA* WT-transduced cell lines to act as comparators.

The advantages of the precise control offered by this cellular model were initially evidenced by comparison of the behaviour of *CEBPA* WT-transduced cells in Hoxb8-FL conditions, which showed a cell marker profile consistent with differentiation. By contrast, *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells failed to differentiate in Hoxb8-FL conditions, suggesting that the mutation has a dominant negative effect.

Our cellular model then allowed us to reproducibly test the effect of mutant C/EBP α on early differentiation in myeloid, lymphoid and DC lineages. We found that the N321D mutation had no appreciable effect on the cell marker profile of transduced cells in cytokine conditions which favoured granulocyte or lymphocyte specification, but showed a distinct phenotype in Flt3L, strongly suggesting an early DC effect in mutant C/EBP α . Furthermore, on prolonged cell culture, it was found that the C/EBP α N321D cell line was immortalised in Flt3L conditions.

Subsequent analysis by single cell RNA-seq (scRNA-seq) confirmed the C/EBP α WT and C/EBP α N321D phenotypes suggested by flow cytometry, and captured precisely the gene expression profile associated with the N321D mutation during early differentiation in Flt3L conditions. In addition, transcriptome analysis at the level of the single cell revealed a small sub-population of *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells with a distinct gene expression profile, which would not have been captured by bulk RNA-seq and which can be hypothesised to represent the immortalised fraction of cells transduced with mutant *CEBPA*. This result underlined the importance of single cell analysis to appreciate the rare events implicated in heterogeneous pre-leukaemic alterations. ChIP-seq was then performed to identify putative direct binding events implicated in those alterations, and identified direct targets of C/EBP α N321D with altered gene expression, including *NOTCH2*, *JAK2*, *SIRPA* and *FOS* which perform significant roles in DC lineage specification and differentiation, as well as genes such as *MYB* and *E2F2* implicated in HSPC cell state and cell cycle control respectively. Interestingly, it was more difficult to identify a significant subset of these genes which had two-fold enrichment for H3K27Ac, and our results suggest that the N321D mutation does not obviously affect the

acetylation profile. This is a surprising result, given that biologically meaningful genes are bound by C/EBP α N321D and have altered gene expression in our experiments, and given that Pundhir *et al* have found that chromatin accessibility and activity correlate with C/EBP α 's function as a pioneer factor in the context of early GM lineage differentiation (Pundhir *et al*, 2018). In this regard, it is important to remember that key genes such as *IRF8*, *RUNX1* and *SPI1* were bound by C/EBP α N321D but did not show altered gene expression, and it is tempting to speculate that the phenotypic effects of the N321D mutation may be mediated in part by conformational changes and altered dimerisation profiles rather than a direct binding event between C/EBP α N321D and *cis*-regulatory elements, explaining the disconnect between DNA binding patterns, acetylation profiles and gene expression. In this regard, Thomas Graf and colleagues have found that topological reorganisation often precedes gene expression changes during cell reprogramming by transient expression of *CEBPA* followed by induction of the Yamanaka TFs OCT4, SOX2, KLF4 and MYC (Stadhouders *et al*, 2018).

In mice transplanted with the C/EBP α N321D cell line, we found that mutant cells were capable of long-term engraftment *in vivo* but did not reliably reproduce leukaemia, suggesting that co-operating mutations are required for a leukaemic phenotype. This did not correlate with results reported by Togami *et al* when C57BL/6J mice received transplants of BM-derived cells transduced with the N321D mutation (Togami *et al*, 2015). However, it does agree with reports by other groups including Nerlov and colleagues that C-terminal mutations result in expansion of multipotent progenitors with no progression to leukaemia (Bereshchenko *et al*, 2009). In this regard, the Bonnet group found long-term repopulating activity in human cord blood-derived Lin⁻ cells transduced with NC-terminal but not C-terminal mutated *CEBPA* (Quintana-Bustamente *et al*, 2012). Our results also correspond with several lines of clinical data from human patients with *CEBPA*-mutated AML:

- (i) these patients are typically characterised by a bi-allelic mutational profile (Wouters *et al*, 2009);
- (ii) hereditary germline mutations in *CEBPA* usually affect the N-terminus but do not result in a familial AML phenotype until patients acquire a somatic C-terminal mutation (Tawana *et al*, 2015);
- (iii) *CEBPA* can cooperate with mutations in *ASXL1*, *CSF3R*, *FLT3*, *GATA2*, *RUNX1*, *TET2* and *WT1* (Fasan *et al*, 2014, Lavalley *et al*, 2016); and

- (iv) AML patients with single-allele *CEBPA* mutations typically carry such a cooperating mutation (Wouters *et al*, 2009).

Recent work by van Galen *et al* has characterised heterogeneity in AML by performing scRNA-seq on 38,410 cells from sixteen AML patients and five healthy donors, and identified a spectrum of malignant cell types including cells with a DC transcriptional profile, as well as demonstrating that leukaemic cells have immunomodulatory properties such as T cell inhibition (van Galen *et al*, 2019). Our own experiments suggested that expression of *CEBPA* N321D at an early LMPP-like stage of haematopoiesis deregulates dendritic cell differentiation, specifically that it causes an immortalised CD11c⁺ B220⁺ BST2⁻ pDC-like progenitor phenotype, correlating with gene set enrichment of differentially expressed genes identified by scRNA-seq. In addition, exogenous mutant C/EBP α binding events were increased in our cell line after differentiation, suggesting that the pre-leukaemic events occur in the HSPC compartment.

The role of C/EBP α in myeloid differentiation has been intensively studied, but relatively little is known regarding its function specifically in DC biology. Early work by Thomas Graf and colleagues suggested that expression of PU.1 in fully committed pre-T cells induces formation of dendritic cells, whereas expression of C/EBP α reprograms T cell progenitors to macrophages, and furthermore that NOTCH signalling is able to inhibit these processes (Laiosa *et al*, 2006). Interestingly, our experiments demonstrated that C/EBP α N321D binds directly with *NOTCH2* and that expression of *NOTCH2* is downregulated in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells on differential expression with EV-transduced cells, and it is possible that NOTCH deregulation may influence DC lineage specification by the PU.1: C/EBP α axis. Later work by the Tenen group showed that there is an early requirement for C/EBP α in DC differentiation and that formation of mature DCs through myeloid progenitors is C/EBP α -dependent, whereas lymphoid progenitors are able to generate DCs in the absence of C/EBP α (Welner *et al*, 2013). Given that recent work by Rodrigues *et al* has shown that pDCs develop mostly from lymphoid progenitor cells (Rodrigues *et al*, 2018), it seems reasonable to hypothesise that the N321D mutation disrupts the C/EBP α -dependent myeloid pathway and favours the generation of pDCs rather than cDCs. This correlates with our experimental results that *CEBPA* N321D-mutated cells initially show reduced expression of cDC cell surface markers, before

progressing to an immortalised pDC-like immunophenotype. It is important to recognise that the phenotypic effects of C/EBP α N321D may also be mediated by interactions with other transcription factors implicated in lineage specification. For instance, our experiments have shown that mutant C/EBP α binds to *IRF8* and *SPI1*, though gene expression of these two genes was not directly altered.

Given that our work suggests for the first time that a pDC phenotype may characterise pre-leukaemic changes in mutant C/EBP α , it is therefore useful to consider our results within the broader context of DC biology. It is well-established that DC subsets include professional antigen presenting cells and immunomodulatory cells which secrete IFN- α . More recently, evidence suggests that pDCs have a unique TLR7-dependent capability to recognise virus-infected cells throughout their intracellular replication rather than only during their rare extracellular transit events (Takahashi *et al*, 2010), and this means that pDCs can counter effectively the multiple mechanisms of immune evasion deployed by viruses. Marlène Dreux and others have shown that sensing of infected cells by pDCs involves viral envelope protein-dependent secretion and transmission of viral RNA in cell-to-cell interactions (Decembre *et al*, 2014), and it is tempting to speculate that pDCs may employ a similar mechanism to play a unique role in cancer surveillance.

Regarding pDC function, Rodrigues *et al* have shown that lymphoid-pathway pDCs produce interferon but do not participate in antigen presentation (Rodrigues *et al*, 2018). It would certainly be interesting to perform functional evaluation of the CEBPA N321D immortalised pDC-like progenitor cell line, for instance by measuring IFN- α production upon TLR9 stimulation and T cell proliferation in response to LPS stimulation. Interestingly, T cell anergy has also been noted in AML-derived dendritic cells (Narita *et al*, 2001), and in a broader malignant context intratumoral pDCs have been functionally characterised in a murine mammary tumour model, favouring tumour progression by secreting IFN- α poorly and by inducing differentiation of regulatory T cells (Le Mercier *et al*, 2013). Besides the direct effects of the immortalised pDC progenitor, it is also important to bear in mind that one of our earliest experimental findings during culture in Flt3L differentiation media was that CEBPA N321D-transduced cells reduced expression of cDC type 2 markers CD11b and SIRP α . Conventional dendritic cells play an important role in cancer surveillance and presentation of tumour

antigen (Bottcher *et al*, 2018a, Bottcher *et al*, 2018b), and therefore N321D-mediated leukaemia may be favoured by dysregulation of the cDC compartment.

Further work is required to elucidate the effects of the N321D mutation in a complex biological system where cross-talk between IRF8, PU.1, C/EBP α and other TFs informs cell fate decisions between neutrophils, lymphocytes and mono-phagocytic cells. Regarding *in vitro* work, it would be important in future experiments to perform functional studies to confirm the immortalised pDC progenitor phenotype suggested by cell marker and gene expression profiles of *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells. It would also be interesting to construct a more complex retroviral expression system where Hoxb8-FL cells are transduced with N and C-terminal mutations, to see if this recapitulates a more aggressive leukaemic phenotype. The intersection of scRNA-seq and ChIP-seq data has identified important putative genes implicated in pre-leukaemic changes, and ChIP-seq is particularly apt because of C/EBP α 's role as a TF, but definitive therapeutic targets may be more clearly identified by CRISPR dropout screens (Tzelepis *et al*, 2016). In addition, scRNA-seq identified a very small subpopulation of five Hoxb8-FL cells transduced with mutant *CEBPA* which had a distinct "non-differentiated" transcriptional profile on t-SNE dimensionality reduction after five days of culture in Flt3L differentiation media. This subpopulation may represent leukaemia-initiating cells, and it would be interesting to employ 10x Chromium or DropSeq technology to process a larger number of single *CEBPA*-mutated Hoxb8-FL cells to capture more of these rare events. For *in vivo* studies, important future work includes (i) next generation sequencing of DNA from BM and splenic cells to characterise the full mutational profile of mice which developed latent leukaemia after transplantation of mutant cells, (ii) secondary and serial transplantation of *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells to confirm their self-renewal capacity, and (iii) CRISPR-Cas9 genome editing to engineer *in vivo* models of cooperating mutations including *CEBPA* N321D (Heckl *et al*, 2014).

Lastly, this study opens up potential novel therapeutic options for the significant percentage of AML patients who carry *CEBPA* mutations. Previous targeted therapies for AML, and in particular APML, have focused on using CCAAT/Enhancer binding proteins to drive differentiation by inserting tamoxifen-responsive C/EBP ϵ into a retroviral vector (Truong *et al*, 2003) or using 2-Cyano-3,12-dioxooleana-1,9-dien-28-oic acid to induce *de novo* synthesis of p42 C/EBP α (Koschmieder *et al*, 2007). Previous work has also identified specific molecular

targets for *CEBPA*-mutated AML, which include *SOX4* and *JAK* (Zhang *et al*, 2013, Lavalley *et al*, 2016). Our own experiments have combined an *in vitro* cellular model with genome-wide characterisation of DNA binding events, histone modification and gene expression at the level of the single cell to identify *NOTCH2*, *MYB* and other genes as putative targets for pharmacological intervention by small molecule activators (Ye *et al*, 2016) or inhibitors (Uttarkar *et al*, 2017) in *CEBPA*-mutated AML.

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Appendix

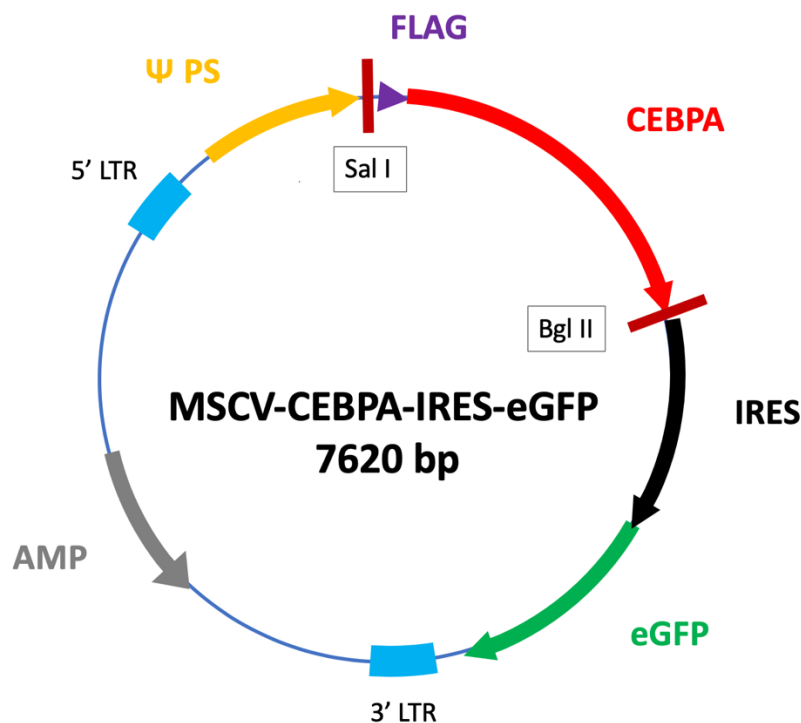


Figure 1: Vector map for MSCV-CEBPA-IRES-eGFP. Sal I (1417), FLAG (1429), CEBPA (1456), Bgl II (2533), IRES (2562), eGFP (3137).

Table 1: 636 differentially upregulated genes on Day 2 *CEBPA* WT vs Day 2 EV-transduced cells comparison

Chit1	Naip5	Acadsb	Stim1
1700047M11Rik	Far2	5730508B09Rik	Gns
Ly6c2	Ccdc125	Fam126b	Tmx3
I830127L07Rik	Zscan29	Afap1	Itm2b
Sgms2	Smurf1	Dhrs7	Cdkn2c
Tnfsf13b	Gda	Trim12a	Dynlt3
Slc40a1	Tmem216	Sun2	Ipo5
CD177	Gstm2-ps1	Dgat1	Arhgdib
4930438A08Rik	Kyat1	Gbe1	Tmem131
Abca9	Arhgef12	Trappc10	Tank
Mogat2	Flot2	Dmxl1	Hist1h1c
Tnfaip6	Nrg1	Gm5251	Cyb5r1
Tlr7	Gstm1	Arsb	Atp2b1
Cd36	S100a11	Wipi1	Gpd2
Cybb	Per2	Pmm1	Man2b2
Hsd11b1	Ugp2	Rpia	Arhgef3
Mgst1	Phlda1	Cnn2	Cspp1
Mgam	Wwp1	Bnip3l	Gng5
Chil1	Trem3	Neu1	D930015E06Rik
Fcnb	Gm13416	Pglyrp1	Map2k1
Aff2	Klf7	Chst12	Myl12b
Ngp	Prkcb	Pag1	Gm21738
Acpp	Slc38a5	Ralgapa1	Ebpl
Dgat2	Grina	Fanca	Apbb1ip

Lcn2	AA474408	Pcyox1	Snx18
Abca13	Plpp6	Rsb1n1	Ndufaf7
Xdh	Itgb2	Mocs1	Gpsm3
Slfn4	Lgr4	Plpp5	Med10
Fmo5	Acsl1	Fcgr2b	Ftsj1
Clec4a2	Gadd45a	Gsr	Rnf14
Ffar2	Dock7	Mpp1	Mlx
Dram1	Nhs12	Tmx4	Grn
Gm9733	Nrp2	Arhgap31	Snx20
C3	Gm12854	Stom	Chd7
Mtus1	Tmem62	Ctsb	Flot1
B4gal6	Sp140	Atrn	Prtn3
Ccno	Ago3	Vps13d	Ak3
S100a8	Gm7665	Mbd5	G6pd2
Gpr84	Entpd1	Sri	Adipor1
Rhou	Hlx	Csf3r	Rock2
Gm29064	Syne2	Zfp622	Gm10800
Tmem45a2	Usp2	Bnip3l-ps	Gm26809
Lyz2	Mrgpra2b	Tbc1d20	Tmbim6
AI839979	Auts2	Mgat4a	Fuca1
Klra2	Pygl	Kif13b	Gtpbp1
Elane	Fosl2	Stx6	Stat3
Draxin	Sort1	Pnpla7	Fam46a
Mgst2	Gm37354	Cnbd2	Serp1b1b
Hcar2	Trp53inp2	4930523C07Rik	Gm5590
Olfml2b	Naip2	Ppp1cb	Klf13
Itgam	Ascl2	Dnajc13	Rpe
Fcor	Dclre1c	Sgpp1	Map1lc3b
Peli2	Mfge8	Irak3	Smim10l1
Ltb4r1	A530040E14Rik	PdCD4	Abtb1
Grb14	Sorl1	Rab32	Rassf5
Ctsh	Hpse	Gm38236	Gm15776
Alcam	Slc31a2	lrf2bp2	Ppp1r12a
Casp4	Rogdi	Osgin2	Tmsb4x
Mansc1	Tnfaip2	Osbp	Sh2b1
Slc44a4	Gm14699	Lrrfip2	Cyba
Mgll	Miga1	CD1d2	Rnaset2a
Hp	Fcgr3	Degs1	Ankle2
Lyz1	Mctp1	Mir6236	Apmmap
Igsf6	Prdx5	Crat	Gca
Olr1	Tfec	CD1d1	Fli1
Ncam1	Megf9	Samd8	Kmt5a
Slc7a11	Cyth3	Pld3	Hcst
Ccdc109b	Mtm1	Plaur	Rcsd1
Wfdc21	Arl15	Plgrkt	Tbrg1
Ptges	Gm21975	Papss2	Zfand5
Gm5960	Hexb	Mcee	D16Ert472e
Serp1b	Trib1	Dgkg	Ankrd11
Napepld	Rap2a	Tst	Baz2b
Vcan	Gm37472	Insr	Ethe1
serpinb10	Cep162	Cep85l	Gm33707
Rpgr	Ypel5	Sptlc2	Arl11
Fcgr4	Plekha1	Tmem156	Plin3
Csf1	Amn1	Tmed3	Ero1l
Tenm4	Fam134b	Vps50	Golim4
Gng7	Glrx	Lamp2	Rgs2
Ifi206	Scp2-ps2	Gm5914	Faap20
Crisp3	Tcn2	Zfp36l1	Bhlhe41
Irak2	Soat1	Gm14032	Arhgap26
Ccl6	Ikbke	Ncf2	Gm14857
Csf1r	Slco4a1	Tom1	Atp8b4
Fyb	Msr1b	AC149090.1	Chmp5
Gm43858	Gm15466	Cast	Plac8
Plekha1	Inpp4a	Stat4	Tnrc6b
Aldh3b1	Hdac4	Atp6v1e1	Flna
Ifi211	Cpq	Gpcpd1	Micu1
Tgm3	Svip	Nucb2	Dusp6
1700020L24Rik	Ero1lb	Cklf	Mbnl1
Lrrk2	Map1lc3a	Gm9025	Tet2
Scnn1a	Acta2	Nfe2l2	Snapi
Cd300lf	Atxn1	Atp2c1	Rbms1
Arhgef11	B230208H11Rik	Ints12	Ccl3
Clec2i	Arhgef6	Serp1b1a	Ifngr1

Slpi	Mospd1	Cd24a	Bin3
Smkr-ps	Pnkp	Micu3	Nars
Map4k3	Per3	Bend4	Sla
Dstn	Bmx	Lpgat1	Vim
Tbc1d8	Gm4854	Cbr4	Atp6v0c
Rdh12	Scp2	Plin2	Hdac5
Syne1	Ppm1h	Cyb5r4	Shfm1
Cd274	Prkd3	Tcp11l2	Plod3
Lbp	Slc22a4	Slc25a37	Pde6d
Pabpc1l	Gm8770	Csgalnact2	Rapgef6
Homer1	Gm2147	Ankrd28	Zyx
Atp8a1	Fnip1	Rnase4	Zmpste24
Mmp8	Anxa3	Gm5884	Smim4
F630028O10Rik	Ptgr1	Spi1	Adssl1
Lmbr1	Lmtk2	Agtrap	Srgn
Abcc5	1110008P14Rik	Elmsan1	Gm13082
Pld1	Dubr	Usp33	Luc7l2
A430072P03Rik	Btg1	Ric1	Cpne3
Mir7678	Lta4h	Rin3	Ptprc
Pirb	Gm5552	Cdadc1	Selenos
Anxa1	Fgd4	Dram2	Slc50a1
Fam160a2	Aplp2	Atp6v1a	Ctsd
Zbtb11os1	Gyg	Rnaset2b	Snhg5
Abcd2	Agps	Npepps	Epb41l4aos
Ifitm6	Ap1s2	Smim12	Tmem165
Fgl2	Rgcc	Gm11868	Wls
Zdhhc2	Tmem63a	9130401M01Rik	Tor1a
Hsd17b1	Lcmt1	Cd53	Arhgap15
Abhd5	Il16	Gm10801	Alox5ap
CD14	Sat1	Gm1840	Atp6ap2
Cldn15	Mirt1	Phkb	Ndfip1
Nfil3	Tmem38b	Gpi1	Pgm2
Ccm2l	Slc17a5	Fam132a	Ccdc50
Lgals3	Aldh3a2	Rab27a	Ncoa4
Cmpk2	Mpp7	BC005561	Serp1
Vsir	Vsig10l	Tiam1	Mbnl2
Mocos	Mafig	Acad8	Ddx17
Celsr3	1700123O20Rik	Pam	Tpp1
Slc26a6	Tmem159	Gm13342	Rab6a
Gas7	Tle3	G6pdx	Gm6768
Sqrdl	Alas1	Pxylp1	Asnsd1
Csf2rb2	Mpo	Dctn1	Taldo1
Ceacam1	Dhrs1	Sirpa	Akap9
Gm16139	Gm14005	Gpr160	Cd33
Znfx1	Pisd-ps1	Sidt2	Fam49b
S1pr1	Stambpl1	Trip4	Uggt1
Camsap2	Sgpl1	Gys1	Idh1
Pex26	Acox3	Bet1l	Ostf1
Rflnb	Pon3	Mid1ip1	Rsrp1
Dach1	Csf2rb	Csf2ra	Atp6v0b
Aoah	Fam21	Riok3	Lin7c
Maml1	Gapt	Hipk1	Psen1
B430010I23Rik	Dync2h1	Aff1	Stt3b
Gfi1	Daam1	Tnfaip8	Atp6v0d1
Cyp4v3	1810037I17Rik	Maml3	Gm15487
Pi16	Pecr	Zfp992	Gm12428
Sash1	Sp100	Edem1	Oxr1
Serpnb6a	Acad11	Pink1	Gmip
Tlr4	Ginm1	Rnf111	Wbp5
Slc8b1	Lyst	Vamp4	Bckdha
Afmid	Gm3150	Selenop	Gm7707
Serpnb10	Tma16	Esf1	Serf2

Table 2: Enrichr GO biological processes from 636 differentially upregulated genes on Day 2 *CEBPA* WT vs Day 2 EV-transduced cells comparison

Index	Name	Adjusted p-value	Odds Ratio	Combined score
1	neutrophil degranulation (GO:0043312)	1.28E-25	4.78	314.97
2	neutrophil activation involved in immune response (GO:0002283)	1.10E-25	4.74	309.8
3	neutrophil mediated immunity (GO:0002446)	1.25E-25	4.7	304.75
4	granulocyte migration (GO:0097530)	0.02793	17.97	185.51
5	toll-like receptor 4 signaling pathway (GO:0034142)	0.04704	10.48	99.74
6	positive regulation of reactive oxygen species metabolic process (GO:2000379)	0.003628	7.08	88.78
7	pattern recognition receptor signaling pathway (GO:0002221)	0.00337	6.42	82.43
8	ribose phosphate metabolic process (GO:0019693)	0.1228	10.48	81.78
9	pentose-phosphate shunt (GO:0006098)	0.1159	10.48	81.78
10	cellular glucan metabolic process (GO:0006073)	0.1098	10.48	81

Table 3: 429 differentially downregulated genes on Day 2 *CEBPA* WT vs Day 2 EV-transduced cells comparison

Tmem268	Gfi1b	Prcc	Syce2
Ighm	Ctla2a	Ass1	Plek
Ddx4	Ppp1r13b	Gm29397	Apobec3
Gm15261	Jade2	Dnmt3b	Nrm
Il7r	Ccdc9	2610318N02Rik	Alyref2
Cdk18	Plekho1	Hist1h2ai	Cfp
Mmp13	2310075C17Rik	Cep78	Msh6
Ms4a6b	Dab2	Csnk1g2	Gm13005
Rag1	Fam65a	Slc2a6	Rpf2
Itpr3	F2rl3	Gch1	Dhfr
Pear1	Fkbp7	Socs2	Acap1
Mzb1	Chl1	Dnajc6	Cfap20
Crocc	Rps6ka3	Cnn3	Gm4849
C030034L19Rik	Cd34	Grwd1	Lgals1
Spns2	Igkv12-89	Tmem173	Atp1b3
Gata2	4930427A07Rik	Fam212a	Bin2
Mc5r	Gata3	Fen1	Smarca5-ps
Drc7	Coro2a	Akap1	Plod2
CD163	Spp1	Gm28875	H2afy
Dntt	Cerkl	Crip1	H2-DMa
Slc18a1	Cav2	Meis1	Cenph
Il21r	Vamp5	Elk3	Sord
Prr5	Usp12	Gm9847	Gm21887
Nlrp10	Psd3	Gm15654	Rfc3
D630045J12Rik	Relt	Ttll9	Gm37201
Cyp4f18	Hdac9	Mtap	Sae1
Rtn4r	Flt3	Tmpo	Gm10193
Rtp4	Car3	Chuk	Csk

Carns1	CrIs1	Fam60a	Eef1akmt1
Tmem176a	Adgrg1	Trp53i11	Gm5529
Zfpm1	Nfya	Trim37	Nrp1
Simc1	Myl4	Rcc1	Aimp2
Dusp4	Gm15581	Kti12	Parvg
Hrh2	Igkv4-90	2700099C18Rik	Abce1
Egr2	Etv4	2610524H06Rik	Ifitm1
Car8	S100a6	Gm6169	Nme1
Ralgds	Muc13	Zfp422	Gm42965
Fam129b	Smtn	Txndc5	Gm7733
Tesc	Emid1	Bmp2k	Aarsd1
Ttyh2	Slc36a3os	Lgals9	Ptpn18
Gm38345	Carm1	Angpt1	Gm10087
Pi15	Ptgds	Ssbp2	Psme3
Gm11998	Spaca9	Helb	Iars
Itgb7	Praf2	Gm15658	Pgrmc1
Gpam	Nkg7	Pus10	Gm6652
Gm16897	2900026A02Rik	Gm24452	Isyna1
Col23a1	Golm1	Nasp	Hist1h4i
Pank1	Nrgn	Il17ra	Eif3b
Slc45a3	Kcnn4	Ptprcap	Polr3h
Nr1d2	Sh2d5	Pkig	Wdr18
Gfra2	Serpinf1	Tsc22d1	Rbm38
Gfra1	Spns3	Trp53	Fkbp3
Dgkq	Tgfb1	Tarbp2	Ftsj3
Gm43696	Irx2	Lmnbl	Gm20156
Ctxn1	Pkib	Scaf8	Gm5837
Afap1l1	Nup35	Hmgbl3	Gm6640
Lsmem1	Gm3470	Mcpt8	Plp2
Pars2	Plcb4	Stmn1	Gins2
Tmem132a	Fbf1	Nmral1	Emp3
Ighv1-23	Stim2	MLkl	Gm5530
Spa17	Hist1h2ag	Isoc1	Kansl2-ps
CD180	Rbpms2	Itga6	Pold2
Tspan6	Mcm10	Rbl1	Alyref
Thsd1	Adgrl4	Cdk5rap2	Kansl2
Cd244	Dscc1	Nfatc1	Gm10167
Il31ra	Bahcc1	Gm11223	Ranbp1
Capn3	4930519L02Rik	Blm	Gm43578
S100a4	Supt16	Rpa1	Gart
Mex3a	Gsk3a	Ppih	Shmt2
Rbp1	Acss1	Slc11a1	2810004N23Rik
Gimap5	B3gnt7	Rbbp7	Gm1969
Nxpe5	H2-Ob	Gm6382	Gm5124
Bex6	Gon4l	Gm14769	Gm5256
Otos	Tmem176b	Trp53-ps	Cdca7
Gm21807	Slc35d3	Gm12184	Gm4617
Arhgap6	Flnb	Slc16a10	Nop58
2610307P16Rik	Hps5	Gm11246	Cse1l
Etv5	Stk10	Hells	Med29
Tada2b	Cnot6	Smarcc1	Cops4
Pbx3	Ctla2b	Smc2	Gm9800
AW112010	Ccnd1	Rfc4	Slc35b4
Nhsl1	Parp9	Steap3	Tuba1b
Itga9	Lat2	Gm1848	Gm3687
Cela1	D5Ertld605e	Lsm3	Ly6e
Il6	Ifi203	Slc39a6	Rrm1
Atp2b4	Dhx33	Topbp1	2810417H13Rik
Mrgpre	Ankrd37	Gcsh	Nipsnap3b
Dgkh	Gm17494	Clic4	Lmo2
Zfp566	3110009E18Rik	Arhgap18	Gm6625
Angptl2	Tmem238	Mcm3	Mcm4
Rasgef1b	Gm5424	Endod1	Hmgbl1-ps7
8430408G22Rik	Peg13	Psmb10	CD48
Zfp729a	Gm12470	Gm6104	Mcm2
Plscr4	Gm12611	Gm2a	Higd1a
Mast4	Adrb2	Slc38a1	Wdr5
Tmem119	Car2	Gm15428	Mrps23
Mtmr10	Gm17936	Mcm6	Tipin
Cd72	Cbfa2t3	Gm5593	Gar1
Tnfrsf12a	Cenpv	Gm5385	Gm11914
Tram2	Lrp5	Zfp36l2	Hmgbl5
Abcb1b	Hist1h2bj	Fbl	Anp32-ps

Thy1	Gm6960	Dapp1	Gm7901
Lpar5	Psat1	Ykt6	Ptma
Rcor2	Tmem229b	Nup205	Prmt1
Kcna3	Rgs1	Gm13521	Rpl21
Plxnb2	Gm15773	Gins1	
Ccdc51	Kn11	Usp22	
Tespa1	Hist1h3c	Tcf3	

Table 4: Enrichr cell ontology (mouse gene atlas) of 429 differentially downregulated genes from Day 2 *CEBPA* WT vs Day 2 EV-transduced cells comparison

Index	Name	Adjusted p-value	Odds Ratio	Combined score
1	stem_cells__HSC	0.000264	4.01	51.35
2	common_myeloid_progenitor	0.03158	4.08	26.15
3	embryonic_stem_line_V26_2_p16	0.005219	2.05	18.7
4	embryonic_stem_line_Bruce4_p13	0.0104	1.86	14.96
5	bone_marrow	0.03843	2.14	13.81
6	follicular_B-cells	0.09355	1.78	9.14
7	macrophage_bone_marrow_0hr	0.4888	2.07	6.63
8	mega_erythrocyte_progenitor	0.2659	1.66	6.54
9	mast_cells_IgE+antigen_1hr	0.6459	1.76	4.93
10	nih_3T3	0.7533	1.67	3.93

Table 5: 15 differentially upregulated genes and 5 differentially downregulated on Day 2 *CEBPA* N321D vs Day 2 EV-transduced cells comparison

Upregulated			Downregulated
Slc26a6	Mmp12	Gm14328	Spns2
Mmp8	Lmo1	Gm13998	Gm16104
Ifi214	Fabp5l2	Fabp5	S100a6
AA474408	Mir6236	Lsm3	Zfp36l2
Slpi	Gm6166	Anxa3	Adgrl4

Table 6: Genes upregulated during culture in Flt3L differentiation media

151 genes differentially upregulated exclusively in CEBPA N321D-transduced cells

Gm2622	Igfbp4	Sfxn3	Tpm2
Luc7l2	Six1	1700025G04Rik	Mpc2
Dleu2	Dusp7	Gm17887	Serpinf1
Gm1848	Trpc4ap	Ocel1	Osbp13
Bnip3l	Atp7a	Atxn1l	Rnf150
Scin	Tns1	Sh3bp1	D930015E06Rik
Trappc5	Klrb1c	Fli1	Gfod1
Iffo1	Snx29	Apc	Gm8615
Tmed8	Zfp947	Gm12045	Egfl7
Rprd2	Trim3	Tmem261	Dcaf10
Ncoa4	Tmem119	Ivns1abp	Serinc3
Med13l	Gm8666	Atp13a2	Shisa2
Pafah1b3	Borcs6	Zfp933	Rab5a
Nup210	Gm8752	Tmem8c	Fam65b
Lnpep	Ctns	Mylpf	Slc44a1
Tubb6	Avl9	Gm7694	Mef2c
Tmem170b	Mef2d	Myog	Klra1
Cbfa2t3	H2-M3	Tmem229b-ps	Tm6sf1
Vamp2	Fam234a	Mgat1	Tifab
Cirbp	Fabp4	Clec2i	Nceh1
Hoxb8	Ube2a	Fam214a	Gm8181
Pigv	Ssh2	Znrf1	Satb1
Map3k5	Hmgn1	Wasf2	Notch1
Adgre5	Hotairm1	Tnfrsf23	Lhfp
Atp1b3	Cox6a2	Fam134b	1110059G10Rik
Zeb2	CD163	Bloc1s2-ps	Smim20
Bcl2	Fam76b	Zfp296	Pecam1
Pink1	Fyn	Mroh1	Zbtb18
Gatsl2	C330007P06Rik	Fbxw4	Gm26798
Parp8	Cmah	D930048N14Rik	Aagab
Mtm1	Gab3	Sema6d	2310001H17Rik
Sh2b2	Rnf130	Klhl30	Gm7862
Rsrp1	Was	Dgkd	Gm11663
Hes6	Fads2	Abcb4	Bmf
D8Ert82e	Slc27a1	Dap	Dr1
Runx2	Fndc3a	Rab33b	Cd93
Adcy7	Gm6088	Sgcg	Mtpn
Kcnk12	H2-T-ps	Dhrs3	

956 genes differentially upregulated exclusively in EV-transduced cells

Adap2	Sh3tc1	Trp53i13	Aoah
Tacc1	Myd88	Gm37347	Zyx
Med10	Wdr45b	Slc7a8	Casp4
Dram2	Ehbp11l	Nuak2	CD80
Crybg3	Parp10	Ftl1-ps1	Gm13077
Plekhm1	Sertad3	Tbc1d8	Pea15a
Mthfs	Smchd1	H2-DMb2	Aldh3a2
Tapbpl	Lpcat4	Apoc2	Gm7823
Myo1g	Arid5a	Phf11d	Stxbp3
Adap2os	Dennd1a	Tet3	Ncoa7
Zfyve26	Tmem192	Ciart	Acap2
Spty2d1	Ifit3	Ptptra	Hexa
Hsd17b4	Csf2ra	Serp1	Gpr160
Samd9l	Gm5431	Slamf9	Slc29a3
H2-Ab1	Tmem106a	Gna15	Mknk1
Ifi30	Zdhhc7	Hmgcl	Egr1
Fuca2	Gpr155	Gm8185	Nadk
Max	Gm13597	S1pr2	Mov10
Hcar2	Erlin1	Tnfrsf14	Snx21
Rnf213	Sgk3	Cd2ap	Cln6
Cd274	Rcbtb2	S100a11	Rnf34
Cmtm3	Scarb2	Lipa	Tm2d2
Tlr9	Selp1g	H2-K2	Pilrb1
Ggh	Arhgef6	Dclre1c	Lipe
Gm18588	Slc15a3	S100a6	Irak2
Trim26	Rsad2	Psme2	Arl5c
Rnf115	Mafk	Cd244	Cdk14
Lrp1	Sh3bp2	Snap23	Lmln

Prkch	Mfsd5	Zfp36l1	Tnfsf12
Maf	Anxa4	G6pd2	Gm1966
Gm13392	Prkab2	Gm13212	Ifi214
Gm15989	Gm6377	Vcpip1	Ppp6r1
Gm43245	Fkbp1b	Bcl10	Oas1a
Nrp1	Lamp2	Gm6977	Dbnl
Coro1a	F630028O10Rik	Arl8a	Dck
Ifit1bl1	HaCD4	Ensa	Rasgef1b
Gm15487	Ccnd1	Pik3ap1	Tmem9b
Calm1	L1cam	Polb	Birc3
Rnh1	Fem1c	Cxcr4	Rraga
Cd22	Gm42786	Renbp	H2-Eb1
Pepd	Actg1	Cldnd1	Morc3
CD48	Psen1	Vps37b	Lilra6
B430306N03Rik	Gvin1	Bco2	Picalm
Spg21	Oser1	Zfp992	Gm23374
Ier2	Gm12715	Anxa1	Eif2ak1
Metrn1	P2ry14	Gm15361	Gm15534
Tlr13	Slc25a38	Gm5510	Zfp36
Gm13453	Dtx2	Gpr18	Kynu
Snx2	Slfn10-ps	Dram1	Gm21738
Atp6v1e1	Gadd45g	Socs1	Cyba
Add3	Irf1	Nt5c3	Rel
Gpr108	Clec4n	Nfkb1	Myo1c
Gm7114	2610206C17Rik	Il18	Ccdc109b
Klf10	Slc35c1	Akna	Junb
Etv3	Entpd1	Acot9	Lpl
Carmil1	Mfsd12	Azi2	Gm26740
Sorl1	Aff1	Ccl4	Flna
Clec9a	Prkd3	Clta	Fnbp1
Il4ra	Sft2d1	Rab3d	Arhgap30
Ptpn22	Txndc15	Lmo1	Vrk1
Itpr1	Cd300lg	Rab32	Spop
Cstb	Elmo2	Slc26a2	Cd53
Atp2b1	Jak2	A230046K03Rik	Stxbp3-ps
Gng10	Gnaz	Zfp382	Chmp1a
Lpp	Ly9	Tpm4	Foxn2
Brox	Galnt10	Lrrc25	Susd3
Degs1	Tnf	Nek7	Trim5
Smox	Stard3	St18	Lgals8
Rgs1	Hexb	Ifi203-ps	Sp110
Amn1	Asgr2	Slc35f6	H2-Aa
Spaca9	Slamf7	Gm4760	Plxnc1
1700097N02Rik	Sirpa	Haus8	Ifit2
Rtn4	Phf11b	Tnfaip2	Sirpb1b
Capza2	Lrch1	Tmem176b	Fry
9430034N14Rik	Gm6615	Lrrfip2	Cmtr1
Rarg	Fbxw17	Ncoa1	Sri
Gbp4	Taf13	Nub1	Samd8
Nmi	Rps6ka4	Pqlc3	Hmox1
Il3ra	Exoc3	Ppp2r5a	Rbms1
Erp29	Ppp3ca	Cnr2	Gm2986
Psme2b	Gm26637	Vwa5a	Pttg1
Clcn5	Nfatc2	Cyp4f16	Ddit3
Rnpep	Coro1b	Neurl3	Dyrk1a
Scn4b	Atp6ap1	Ras2	Adgre4
Malat1	Gpr132	Tmem154	Mgat4a
Psme1	Ankrd44	Dtx3l	CAAA01147332.1
C3	Rbpj	Cic	Nfkbib
Lpar6	Sbno2	Itpr1pl1	Igtp
Ly6c1	Gm4918	Sirt7	Ccdc86
Tfe3	Oasl1	Acss1	Kif1b
Macf1	Ostm1	Actg-ps1	Gm5763
Itpr1pl2	Nipa2	Sgpl1	Acvrl1
Btg2	Smap1	Fbrsl1	Fam69a
Mcl1	Anxa2	Plekkg3	Dync1h1
Lyst	Sema4c	Dock5	Phf11a
Gbp9	Arhgap4	Mtf1	Chn2
Gm7367	Fcgrt	Necap2	4930455G09Rik
Gm7776	Emp3	Mob3a	Hcfc1r1
Dab2	Ascc3	Rn7sk	Ifi47
Fam49b	Chmp4b	Zfand2a	Nampt
Gm13535	Nkiras2	Acbd5	Gm43330

Tor1a	Tmem150b	Cst12	Ptp4a2
Hist3h2a	Gm8902	1600014C10Rik	Tnfrsf1a
4833421G17Rik	Zfp467	Trim36	Cxcl16
Lamtor1	Arpc5	Ifi209	Ifngr2
Lacc1	Trim30c	P2rx4	Mdm2
Irgm2	Apobec1	Lyz1	Atp6v1b2
Gm8641	Spib	4930430E12Rik	Ssh1
Rchy1	Psmb10	Ncoa3	Sap30
Tmem176a	Crif2	Cyld	Cttnbp2nl
Mndal	Gbp2	Plpp6	Scand1
Szrd1	Atp6v0d1	Plod1	Relb
Zfp277	Maml1	Tlr1	Eif2ak2
Aif1	Fam129a	Vamp3	Gm8464
Ptafr	0610012G03Rik	Socs3	Ctsd
Rgl1	Syk	Arhgap15	Vhl
Ap2a2	Armc7	Arhgap25	Gm12428
1600010M07Rik	Hgsnat	Tmsb4x	Rnf114
N4bp2l1	Gm15922	Gm16205	Gm7676
Gm5828	Tmem86a	Gm9392	Txndc16
Cap1	Gm6175	3110043O21Rik	Pias1
Clcn7	Mycbp2	Mob1a	Tmod3
Ep300	Gsdmd	Lrrc75a	St3gal2
Gm5578	H2-DMb1	Mapk14	Gm42641
Plin2	Ccdc88a	Klf6	Wdr44
Hk2	M6pr	Gabara	Phactr2
Gm21975	Pdlim5	Dennd1b	Fgl2
Gm8577	Gm5548	Cass4	Tlr6
Pfkfb4	Zcchc6	Paqr4	Cast
Adora3	Dennd1c	Ralb	Leprot
Mysm1	Pilrb2	Dock4	Bcl2l11
Myo9b	Aim2	Slc43a2	Mdfic
Bin3	Raph1	Plekho2	H2-T24
Naip6	Wwp1	Cln3	Tmem134
Slc34a2	Zcchc2	Mvb12a	Far1
Swap70	Tlr7	Ttyh3	Nfkb2
Cxcl2	Azin1	Gna13	Tbc1d9
Akt3	St8sia1	Gm12250	Foxred2
Frmd4a	Plcl2	Gm15503	Cd9
Cyb561a3	Fcer1g	Tspyl1	Dpysl2
1110008P14Rik	Gm20432	Pml	Smpdl3b
Rabep1	Dusp3	Ccl2	Rnd3
Vim	Rel1	Ifit3b	Trim12c
Hpgds	Zc3h12a	Gm12791	Slc15a4
Plaur	Tnfsf8	Klf4	Trim14
Rnf166	Mpc1	Cmip	Ptpn1
Gm15899	Klk1b11	Nedd9	CD86
Pisd	Parp12	Usf1	Mir6236
Ncf2	Ccdc12	Bin1	Cdc42
Bet1l	Oas1g	Prdx5	M6pr-ps
Plxdc1	Gm5046	Fcgr1	Iqgap2
Stk38	Atg7	Rap2b	Cyp4f18
Il2rg	Gm10801	Ifit1	Slc37a2
Racgap1	2810405F17Rik	Ifngr1	Ptms
Plekhhb2	Pcsk7	CD40	Rab8a
Dusp10	Dnajb14	Srgap2	Pnkp
Diaph2	Acta2	Dcaf11	Lpin1
Slc31a1	P2ry12	Rgs2	Gpr137b-ps
Ndel1	Cib1	Tle3	Plekhhm3
Herc6	Ctsc	Ppp1r18	Slc25a22
Ifi213	Rgs14	Gpr171	Dnase1l1
Ppm1h	Tcf19	Aldh3b1	Ifi204
Slc8b1	Fnip2	Arhgdia	Arpc2
Vapb	Epb41l2	Pstpip1	Slfm1
Fcgr4	Atp6v0b	Efh2	AC133103.1
Tnip3	Keap1	Itm2b	Cpne3
Npc2	AW112010	Gm8369	Cbl
Sec24b	Bcl3	E2f7	Gnai2
Ero1lb	Rassf1	Herpud1	Ier5
Ms4a4a	Card11	Slfm9	Sp2
Ccr2	Actr3	Sub1	Gm6263
Arrb2	Grasp	Tbc1d13	Pid1
Fos	Msr1	Naaa	Gm11405
Rap2c	Usp25	Wipf1	Usf2

Twf2	Ids	9430076C15Rik	Kif23
Dhrs11	Apbb1ip	Irgm1	Gm9025
Rgs3	Ccr12	Rnf167	Net1
Clec4a4	Gm14856	Stard9	Lactb
Dpy19l1	Clec4b1	Cd9-ps	Rin3
Ftl1	Lcp1	Creb3	Alox5
Synj1	Gngt2	Gm4750	Il12rb2
Ms4a7	B4galt5	Tnfaip8l2	2310035C23Rik
Ifi206	Gm3145	Rap1b	Vcl
Taldo1	Gm12543	Elmsan1	Mif4gd
Tmem184b	Ptk2b	Nagpa	Dpp4
Map3k3	Gm12226	Atp8a1	Osbpl9
Gm11189	Cxcl10	Thap6	Rnf31
Skap2	Rab1b	Gm10800	Malt1
Atf3	Atp6v0c	Card19	Crip1
Zbtb7b	Nxpe4	Fam26f	March5
Vps51	Pdxk	Sirt2	Skil
Zfhx3	Tmem219	Helz2	Zfp710
AC132444.1	Map2k1	Gm9397	Rala
Atp1b1	Ubc	P2ry10	Pik3cd
Acot10	Emilin2	Gm15448	Gm16026
Rab3il1	Sdhaf2	Tgfb1	Lrrk2
Sh3glb1	BC005537	Isg20	Gm4962
Gm12430	Kctd12	Slc35c2	Slc25a45
Camk1	Tax1bp3	Msrb1	Lmna
Abhd12	Snx10	Tmem189	Pim1
C3ar1	Esyt1	Mical1	Nfkbid
Commd8	Ccdc50	H2-DMa	Adgre1
Actb	Pnpla7	Ints4	Lrrk1
Taf6l	Syngn2	C130026I21Rik	Padi2
Gm8399	Lrch3	Sdccag3	Fam46c
Stat6	Il21r	Ttc7	Laptm4a
H2-T22	Gm17087	Akr1a1	Capn2
Parp3	Trerf1	Trim30b	E2f2
Actr2	Trem2	Adar	Ifih1
Adam15	Cdk13	Hpcal1	Il15
5430427O19Rik	Rnf13	Grina	Klra17
Sertad1	0610040J01Rik	Stard3nl	Gm37589
Ifi208	Ifnar1	Gm20559	Gsap
Gm7665	Acaa1b	Gm6305	Nfkbiz
Zbp1	Ptpnj	Aim1	Cdc42se2
Stam2	Dna2	Sidt2	Rps6ka5
C1qc	Gltp	Arf5	Ywhah
Peli1	Npc1	Iqgap1	Nckipsd
Arhgap31	Cnn2	Tlr4	Ankfy1
Gak	Fcgr3	B3gnt8	Clec4a1
Rac1	Gm10717	Gm14000	Daxx
Ncor2	Igsf6	Hck	Gm12164
Nostrin	G6pdx	Grb2	Gm7357
Grap	Sema4a	Rbfa	Sgpp1
Ostf1	Bhlhe40	Mvp	Scimp
Wdr1	Gm12166	Ddi2	Cotl1
Dusp1	Gm15753	Pqlc1	Nfe2l2
Gm8822	Gm5590	Camta2	Fcor
Gpr146	Sqstm1	Slfn8	Upb1
Traf5	Antxr2	Fuca1	Rp2
Smdt1	Gmip	Pelo	Cav2
Icosl	Uvrag	Id3	Fgd3
Gm6695	C1qb	Ifi35	Fnip1
Sesn2	Tmem173	Hdac4	Vps37a
Xbp1	Ptger4	Gm12003	Siglec1
Gm7809	Cndp2	Rhog	Mpp1
Ccdc50-ps	Gnpda1	Fth1	Vasp
Fgr	Ltb4r1	Pot1b	Abcg1
Pag1	Map7d1	AB124611	Mgl2

443 genes differentially upregulated in both *CEBPA* N321D and EV-transduced cells

Tnfrsf13b	Selenop	Ppm1m	Csf1r
5730416F02Rik	Pmaip1	Ythdf3	Cds1
Plxnb2	Trafd1	Tubb2a	Stk17b
Slc2a6	Ifi207	Ifi205	Txnip
Siglech	Trim25	Slfn2	March1

Blvrb	Cybb	Gm15931	Spi1
Lpxn	Myadm	Bst2	Cd300c
Itgb7	Rasa4	P2ry6	Gm13669
Mbnl1	Il1r2	Parp9	Tmed3
Gm5398	Gm4875	Hps3	Kdm7a
Bex6	Snx20	Ccl6	Arhgef12
Stat2	Gm14699	Cd74	Irf9
Tyrobp	Ctsa	Alox5ap	Rgs10
Irf5	Cd28	Sdc3	Hcls1
Uba7	Tspo	Gng2	Ighm
Inpp4a	Alcam	Tgtp2	Usp18
Mycl	Xiap	Abhd15	Clec10a
Cdkn1a	Arl6ip5	Slc16a7	Tpd52
Ddx58	St8sia4	Arl4c	Prex1
Axl	Laptm5	Runx1	Trpv2
Slfn5	Myo1f	Ccdc180	Ehd4
Limd2	Sgcb	Gm15417	Itm2c
Filip1l	Ms4a6d	Cebpd	Cnbd2
Ddx24	Gm5552	Mef2a	Ube2l6
Atp6v1d	Prkcd	Acer3	Gpr34
Tapbp	Gosr2	Ly86	Msn
Camk1d	Sh3bgrl3	Anxa6	N4bp3
Napsa	Tep1	Capg	Lifr
Il17ra	Gm14548	Havcr2	Zc3hav1
Sdc4	Ptpro	Pip4k2a	Nptn
Tlr2	Cnp	Fmn1l	Lgals3bp
Tmsb10	Ctse	Prkx	Ctnnd2
Arpc5l	Notch2	Stat1	Fam174a
Acaa1a	Sat1	Lilrb4a	Gm14608
Ly6e	Selenow	Lbh	Cd300a
Plac8	Itgax	Plekha1	Fam129b
Nfkbia	Arhgap9	Cmtm6	Arhgap17
Ubl3	Smim5	Epb41l4b	Il6ra
Cdc42se1	Btg1	Bach2	Pitpna
P2ry13	Cyth4	Clec4a2	Nfam1
Pirb	Unc93b1	Rassf5	Grn
Ctsh	Whsc1l1	Map3k1	Ap1s2
Trim12a	Evi2a	Lst1	Slc14a1
Tet2	Hmha1	Gas7	Pld4
Il6st	Mir22hg	Gpr141	Tifa
Ms4a4c	Mpc1-ps	Inpp5k	Tmem50b
Tor3a	BE692007	Clec4a3	Rassf4
Mkrn1-ps1	Oas3	Tec	Ogfr
Cx3cr1	Itgb2	Tmem55b	Kmo
Epn1	Klhl6	Tmem243	Stx7
Cd52	Ifi203	Neat1	Gpsm3
Slc37a3	Samhd1	Parp14	Ly6a
Gm7936	Hlx	Tnni2	Fxyd5
Gng2-ps1	Usp12	D1Ert622e	Nlrp3
Fads3	Ctnna1	Klf3	Nrros
Dpep2	H1f0	Cd300lb	Anxa5
Scpep1	2010001K21Rik	Gm12345	Lyn
Klrd1	Gsn	Sh2b3	Tulp4
Ptpn6	Cfh	Oasl2	Sp100
Ighj4	I830127L07Rik	Gm3788	Ccr1
Fes	Pisd-ps1	Tor1aip1	Gpcpd1
Tmem109	Xaf1	Cln8	9930111J21Rik2
Litaf	Abi1	Znfx1	Milr1
Map3k8	Plec	Sik1	Cfp
Trim30a	Themis2	Mkrn1	Tnfsf9
Ckb	Ly6c2	Nfatc1	Zufsp
Rpph1	Slc44a2	Rogdi	Lcp2
Tmem229b	Itga1	Tdrd7	Irf7
Rnase6	Reep5	Zfp385a	Naga
Gm14032	Pak1	Ifi211	Cysltr1
Wdr26	Smim3	A530040E14Rik	Ifnar2
Pik3r5	Bcl6	CD14	Trim30d
Tpst1	Hpse	Zfp263	Klrb1f
Man2b1	9930111J21Rik1	Tiparp	Arhgap5
Fam105a	Lair1	Map4	Ypel3
Cytip	Slc9a7	H2-T23	Il13ra1
Tecpr1	Prr5	Pilra	Cd300lf
Csf2rb	Fgd2	Lilr4b	Ms4a4b

Tubgcp5	Naip5	Sft2d2	Cd68
Cadm1	Csf2rb2	Gm17791	5031439G07Rik
Gm16372	Psap	Rubcnl	Nr4a1
Ypel5	Necap1	Gm8995	Oas2
St3gal5	Dhx58	Gm12892	Pycard
Gm15987	Prr13	Kctd14	Rbm47
Smim14	Mtmt14	Isg15	S100a4
Fyb	Zbtb7a	Trim34a	Il10ra
Vsir	Lgals3	Acox3	Ahnak
Lgmn	Ms4a6b	Gm12854	Bloc1s1
Wfdc17	E330020D12Rik	Ifitm3	Slc46a3
Nos1ap	AI839979	Cst3	Tpd52-ps
Rasgrp4	Lasp1	Gpr183	Sppl2a
Zfp3612	Tmcc3	Ebi3	Ak8
Shisa5	Bmyc	Plp2	Gcnt2
CD82	Gns	Plekhg5	Tcirg1
Ccl3	Ifi271l2a	Tmem51	Ighj2
Rab7b	Asah1	Sp140	Mx1
Sema4d	Cmpk2	CD180	Irf2bp2
Fkbp15	Epsti1	Frmd4b	Lamp1
Dusp22	Id2	Rara	Ifitm6
P2rx7	Irf8	Itgam	Cyfp1
Lsp1	Mpeg1	Slc6a6	Slc12a9
Ctss	Gcnt1	Clec7a	Lyz2
Tfeb	Rtp4	BC147527	Tagap
Klrk1	Bri3	Plekhf2	Ighj1
I830077J02Rik	Soat1	Cd300c2	Ctsb
Mx2	Grk2	Klf13	Pira2
Gm4992	Ptprc	Gm11787	Rin2
Ms4a6c	Evl	Dusp5	Gm6169
Pstpip2	Aph1c	AbCD1	Gm9844
Ctsz	Pacs2	Rps6ka1	Rmnd5b
S100a10	Plekho1	Apba1	

Table 7: Genes downregulated during culture in Flt3L differentiation media

138 genes differentially downregulated exclusively in CEBPA N321D-transduced cells

Siglec1f	Hist1h2ab	1810037I17Rik	Abcb1a
Fam60a	AW146154	Srxn1	Rapsn
Mmp8	Ighv1-77	Spred2	Hsd11b1
Zfp462	Hist1h2ae	Ammecr1	Pvr
Als2	Pfdn4	Pomgnt2	Zfp704
Steap3	Rgs18	Nrp2	Ifi214
P2rx3	Hist1h2an	Man1a	Ubxn11
Trim68	Six5	Nudt1	Tmem29
Ighmbp2	BC003965	BC026585	Flt1
Homez	Pon3	Depdc1b	Gm43431
Zbtb16	Zfp758	Gpr65	Kdm1a
Adgra2	Hist1h1d	Cebpzps	Hist1h3b
Rgs1	Optn	Hist1h3g	Asb1
Adcy9	4930486L24Rik	Tet1	Rps6ka3
Vcan	Suco	Polm	Tex30
Pi16	Gm37354	TICD1	Hist1h2bg
Prcc	Fpgt	Xrcc5	Ifi47
Smtn	Ctla2b	Vav3	2810408I11Rik
Sirt1	Klhdc1	Hist1h3e	Clec5a
Slco3a1	Hist1h4n	St3gal6	Rps29
Dusp19	Actn1	Ube2w	Trem1
AA474408	Tyw3	Ankrd50	Gfpt1
Gm26597	Gfi1	Atp11b	Ift81
Csf3r	Ankrd27	Hpgd	Mettl18
9330175E14Rik	Tgfb1	Amz1	4933431K23Rik
Gtse1	Fcgr3	Erlin2	Mmgt1
Prdm1	Zfp27	Plcb2	Hivep2
Cdk5rap2	Tnni3k	Tgfb1	Tmem132d
Fam46a	Casp7	Atp10a	Zbtb34
Pam	Fosb	Il11ra1	Rims2
Gm5424	Hist1h1b	Gm7805	Anxa3
2700038G22Rik	Crim1	Pde4dip	Gm13313

Rsu1
Zc4h2
Ebna1bp2

6030408B16Rik
Rmnd1
Slc11a1

Nars2
Hivep3
Rbakdn

CD84

1060 genes differentially downregulated exclusively in EV-transduced cells

Selenbp1	Pum3	Tspan2	Zak
Sergef	Ldlrad4	Fancf	Kpnb1
Bhlha15	Fam114a1	Asf1a	Pced1b
Ruvbl2	Ifi27	Amot	Atr
lfrd2	B3galnt2	Col11a2	Ninj1
Gm13502	1110051M20Rik	1110008L16Rik	Hemk1
Angptl4	Fasn	Snappc4	Cirh1a
Gm1976	Gm43213	Cdk4	Gm5593
Dennd5b	Gcsh	Fkbp3	Prkca
Zfp979	Abhd11	Cand1	Rai14
Cnpy4	Arv1	C030034L19Rik	Mroh2a
Bcl7a	Pgm2	Haus1	Pomk
Kcnq5	Cenpv	Jpx	Rpl31
Dlat	Ptgir	1110004E09Rik	Armcx6
Gm21807	Gas2	Gm14769	BC055324
Rps6	Thy1	Ccdc40	Bbs12
Ak2	Gm37510	Polr1c	Rtn4r
Zbed4	Akap7	Ppcdc	Ppfia4
Snhg4	Gm37666	2610008E11Rik	Cry2
Strbp	Polr3g	Ssbp1	Tpi-rs11
Ppfibp1	Lrrc20	Rsl1d1	Zfp335os
Jade2	Socs5	Ogt	Msantd3
Zfp566	Ktn1	Mei4	Got2
Psmg2	Pla2g4a	Ctnnal1	Gm38391
Scd2	Atat1	Cd302	Lyrm2
Cenph	Itih5	Cct3	Nck2
Brinp3	Stam	Exo5	Borcs7
Mns1	Mrpl44	Mybbp1a	Haus3
Gm5837	Gm37124	Spice1	Prep
Dennd6b	Amacr	Il31ra	Timm10
Gm27219	Dcun1d5	Chchd5	BiCD1
Gm12115	Tmem254c	Abce1	Mmp14
Rps12	Gm15659	mt-Nd2	Zfp507
Cd24a	Sort1	Bcap29	Zfp748
Zfp932	Eif3j1	Thyn1	Gm7244
Gm4879	Sh2d5	Hyal2	Pdrg1
Cep57l1	Mgmt	Paip2	Gm8459
Gm6501	Klf16	Tex9	Snora68
Ercc6	Stk16	Nip7	Cdca7l
Nutf2	Kctd4	Cisd3	Gm8173
Ctps	1810014B01Rik	Ptprcap	Zcwpw1
Gm3362	CD81	Gm8069	Gart
Mrto4	Gm12955	Fchsd2	Atp5g1
Plscr3	Dync2li1	Hsp90ab1	Zfp597
Utp20	Kdelc1	Cluh	mt-Te
Slc45a3	Trappc13	Gm9824	Pitrm1
NudCD1	2810002D19Rik	Fam78a	Utp11l
Tsen15	Dnmt3b	Ovca2	Enajb4
Camsap1	Col19a1	Gm8741	Erh
Mphosph9	Plscr4	Aimp2	Nhs1l
Slc25a15	Nudt5	Il12a	Nme6
Hdgf	Mgarp	Blm	Acot2
Rnaseh2c	Msrb2	Srr	Smad3
Gm37201	Tnk2	Dand5	Ptpn7
Zfpm1	Ppp1r14c	Emilin1	Fam188b
Yaf2	Pdlim1	Ndc1	Nolc1
Hoxa6	Cep89	Gm15528	Mnd1-ps
Kcnj2	Kansl1l	Golgb1	Lins1
Sox4	Spint2	Rbmxl1	Ilf2
2610306M01Rik	Ccdc88c	PdCD4	Rrs1
Ddx21	Nav2	SCD1	Polr3h
Mrps31	Gmpr	Slc20a2	1190007I07Rik
Hadh	Urb2	Rps13-ps4	Paip2b
Smim24	Nsun2	Oxnad1	Gm23246
Pdpr	Dzip3	Npm3	Xpnpep3
Trip13	Bhlhb9	Sdc1	Mccc2
Spa17	Hyls1	L2hgdh	Alg2

Pbx4	Ncl	Gm15654	Ripk3
Nme1	Mettl1	Gm5455	Gimap1
Trub2	Gemin4	Twist1	Pgam1
Gm5946	2900026A02Rik	Pi4k2b	Nop10
Wdr75	Abcb6	Kcnp3	Hspd1
Zfp606	Al987944	Psmg1	Kti12
Cdk6	Tmem70	Ska2l-ps	Ppif
D16Ert472e	Cdca7	Prps1	Cmss1
Sh3rf1	Prelid2	Ttll1	E130308A19Rik
Gm13700	Spns2	Mex3a	Mcm7
Sos2	Gm23130	Zfat	Mesdc2
Akap1	Gfod2	Wdr34	Unkl
Ints6	Ube3a	Mrpl15	Gm11451
Nmnat3	Ahcy	2610307P16Rik	D630045J12Rik
Dirc2	Fam220a	Polr3d	Nol8
Zfp113	Gm11993	Dusp18	Phgdh
Tnpol	Gm13337	Nup43	2810403D21Rik
Vangl2	Spata7	Gm24452	Tmem69
Dnph1	Ppargc1b	B9d1	Traf4
Spata24	Dnajc2	Ftsj3	Cbx2
Gm5297	Ppm1f	Tom1l1	Ddx1
Fam212a	Chaf1b	Zfp707	Vsig10l
4930509E16Rik	Msh6	Mcee	Gm4535
2810004N23Rik	Ipo11	Enkd1	Gpatch4
Wbscr27	Cacybp	Gm5847	Cngb1
Zscan22	Gm43297	Clpp	Pcp4l1
Ntmt1	Ipp	Gm42814	Zfp40
Armcx2	Ccdc66	Ube2cbp	Msi2
Hspa13	Gm37060	Gsr	6330562C20Rik
Focad	Osbpl5	Snhg6	Gm14857
Gm20156	Rptor	Eif1ax	Thsd1
Plpp5	3110040N11Rik	Hsd17b10	Tspan13
4933404O12Rik	Snap47	Kif17	Gng12
Eef1g	Timm9	Hist1h2bk	Hoxa5
Etfbkmt	Cep97	Pgam1-ps2	Gm5385
Anks1	St14	Rpl36	Rsb1l
Map9	Pcsk4	Ppan	Gm14057
Gm17251	Gm1818	Nop2	Slc7a6
Gm17936	Aldoc	Mettl4	Pi15
Gm6960	Akap13	C230034O21Rik	Zcchc11
Mdh2	Zfp239	Lman1	Fto
Rcl1	Gm5864	Mdn1	Lamp3
Taf5l	Dusp12	Sntb2	Klhdc2
Idi1	Slc43a1	Gm6640	Pabpn1
D3Ert4751e	Rpgrip1	Nt5dc2	Dok4
Slc9a3r2	Rcn1	Comtd1	Gm17709
4921524J17Rik	Abhd6	Hoxa7	Gm11914
Pcbd1	Gprasp1	4930581F22Rik	Cd27
Rnf220	Selenon	Bambi	Usp31
Mfsd13a	Fam35a	Tceanc	Icam2
Prtn3	Aldh6a1	Pear1	Zfp874a
Gfm1	Layn	Gm4735	Znhit3
Oaz2-ps	Gm15770	Xpo7	Sgsm2
Paip1	Zfp280c	Sumf2	Socs2
Mrpl38	Pde4d	Qsox1	Larp1b
Slc25a29	Fkbp4	Gem	Gm11516
Gm16433	Aak1	Gm9531	Nop58
Ppp1r14b	Rbak	Nefh	Tia1
Rps2-ps10	Gm13998	Gm15261	Gadd45gip1
Nup37	Bmi1	Dhx30	Zfp672
Rrp1b	Gfi1b	Gm15800	Spag4
Miga1	Gm12848	Rpusd2	Tesc
Pop1	Gm8522	Mcm2	Gm11896
Zfp146	Gm16465	Susd1	Las1l
Rpp14	Per3	Phlda3	Slc18a1
Zfp783	Vwa8	Dnajc10	Gm19031
Gm4366	Galk1	Gm30074	Ppp1r13b
Unc13a	Gm14681	Gtf3c4	Gm37422
Kctd1	2610524H06Rik	Bora	Med29
Tmem186	Zfp329	Pa2g4	Mnd1
Tspan5	Mthfd1	Gm4353	Cerkl
Sord	Hspd1-ps3	Exosc2	R3hcc1
Gm9847	1810032O08Rik	Gm13719	Hspa9-ps1

Engase	Lamc1	Sdhaf3	Gm16379
Cmtr2	Prdx6	Dach1	Gm21887
Tnnt1	Gaa	Abhd2	Zfp775
Uevld	Snord22	Scly	Mrpl12
Grwd1	Mrpl50	Fbxo25	Sephs2
Hmgn5	Gm9260	Etv4	Wdr74
Ubxn8	Zc3hav1l	Ldlrad3	Noc2l
Calu	Ndufb2	Gm17837	Gm15484
Smyd2	Rapgef3	Zfp512b	Bzw2
Gm10131	Ada	Gm5874	Orc2
C1qbp	Polr3k	Lyar	2810025M15Rik
Hddc2	Gm10819	Ankrd13b	Htra3
Gm20342	Gm9755	Prune2	Adsl
Bsn	Dkc1	Abcb8	Cdk7
Gm13368	Tmem107	Taco1	Gnl3
1190002N15Rik	Tnfsf13os	Shhg15	Gata2
Xk	Capn3	Mif-ps3	Lymm9
Tnfrsf26	HaCD1	Mtf2	Tdg
Shmt1	Jmjd8	Ttll5	Mgat5
Iqsec1	G2e3	Grhpr	Nob1
Hmgb3	Map7d2	Gm8113	Repin1
Cnpy2	Tnfrsf22	Kremen1	Kcnh7
Gstp-ps	Syncrip	Bag2	Frat2
Pex10	Abcf2	Fam216a	Acaca
Ipo5	Nudt19	Rpl21	Wdr55
Ndufaf2	Sirt5	Gm42418	Ern1
Ptcd3	Dnaja3	Rhoj	Epha4
Gar1	Tma16	Nhp2l1	Nlgn2
Abcd2	Cbx3	Ampd2	Ccdc58
Mtx3	Eno1b	Slc35d3	Gm26917
Golim4	Drap1	Stk26	Nme4
Gpam	Gm10110	Hibch	Smpd4
Mrps28	Ccdc167	Nomo1	Rint1
Rpl27	Nudt3	Gm12020	Sssca1
Gm8520	Cbx5	Gm10020	Gm7666
Myl4	Thap2	Gm9826	Gstp1
Ctxn1	Dtx4	Sfxn1	Fgf10
Gm11847	Gdf11	Gm4349	Exoc8
Lmo2	Clstn1	Mir5099	Wdr6
Zbtb38	Luc7l	Rhoq	Selenom
Tal1	Wdr12	Gm16341	B230369F24Rik
Gm17230	Ddx56	Dhx33	Gm7781
Slc25a43	Ptch1	Stxbp4	Tomm5
Fmc1	Ell2	Myo19	Fam160a2
Gm4737	Cdkn2aipnl	Fancb	B3gnt2
Cct6a	Ippk	Gsta4	mt-Tt
Pold2	Eef1e1	Gm20696	D5Ert605e
Tspan32	Wwc2	Micall2	Kdm5b
Top3b	Pcyox1l	Fktn	Ttc3
Mvb12b	Gm13498	Wdr5b	Mrgpre
Pebp1	Trim28	Rdh13	Gm9256
Rfc4	Gm17066	Raet1d	4732463B04Rik
Zfp687	Vpreb1	Elk3	Rrp12
Gm7901	2610318N02Rik	Mrps18b	Gspt1
Zfp101	Car8	Eif3b	Mcph1
Utp14b	Fxn	Gnpat	Guf1
Gm5069	Dpy19l3	Dnajc12	Ruvbl1
Hells	Tfdp2	Zdhhc24	Slc16a1
Tcp1-ps1	Rrn3	Afap1	Poli
Shhg5	Dtymk	Hexim2	Prmt5
Fancd2	Amer1	Dars	Trp53rkb
Rtttn	Nifk	Rbp1	Ahi1
Bcat1	Rmnd5a	Paics	BC017158
Pecr	Proser3	Gm13776	Gm13937
Irak1bp1	Txnrd3	Zfp428	Syce2
Npm1	Cycs	Serf1	9930104L06Rik
Tfap4	Mmd	Trp53bp1	Tufm
Tmem67	Cnn3	Mycbp	Ccnh
Ccdc181	Fabp5	Umps	Asap2
Rasd1	Irx2	Gm13552	Gm13521
Cand2	Spry4	Brix1	Tmem97
Klhl12	Tnik	3110082l17Rik	Tarbp1
1110038B12Rik	Gm7512	Fam65a	Gm807

Ankrd26	Pde8a	Camkk1	Gm5124
Gclm	2410016O06Rik	Fkbpl	Spout1
Tfpi	H2-Q6	Prdx3	Ccdc125
Rpusd3	Bola1	Zfp184	Klhl9
Trnt1	Srek1ip1	Arap2	Amd1
Ttc37	Dut	Faf1	Senp8
Gm6166	Ddx18	Fer	Pabpc4
Polr2f	Cd99l2	Qtrtd1	9230114K14Rik
Pam16	Gm14109	Ccdc15	Gm14328
Aldh18a1	Jmjd4	Gm17494	Rpl12
Hgh1	Aasdh	Phb	Cbx6
Gm5525	Rpl36a	Pofut1	Dusp4
Pom121	Wdr36	Pus7	Lekr1
Rpl36-ps2	2610002M06Rik	Smyd5	Ttc26
Wdr77	Pcyt2	Mc5r	Gm6447
Stxbp5	Osbp17	Cd72	Psme3
Ddah2	Gm5687	Gm5855	Pus10
Ints3	Ypel1	Zbed3	Xpc
Mkrn2	Slc29a2	Gm7556	Nudt7
Idh3a	Ap4e1	Simc1	Kcnq1ot1
Hsd17b14	Lsmem1	Npm3-ps1	Arid4b
Fam92a	Hist1h2bj	Nudcd2	Srm
Rps8	Myb	Ubfd1	Yae1d1
Zfp369	Cep41	Pif1	4930555A03Rik
Nop56	Gm4258	Adat1	Mlec
Hcst	4930520O04Rik	Atad3a	Cbr1
C920006O11Rik	1700030K09Rik	Gemin5	Thop1
SpoCD1	Mcm6	Gm7332	Mcm3ap
Nup133	Yod1	Pgk1	Gm7251
D130058E05Rik	Snx27	MIh3	Maged2
Snord55	Phc1	Rcc1	Polr1b
Brwd3	Rai1	Mettl15	Gm12583
Raet1e	1810022K09Rik	Chordc1	Gm16074
2610301B20Rik	Pus7l	Rnf219	Pitpnc1
Gm5611	Chtf8	Gm7289	Gimap6
Tfb2m	Dph5	Msto1	Flt3
Tctn3	Ppat	Zfp799	Pdss2
Psmc7	Mmachc	Pla2g6	P3h1
Rfx3	Gm26580	Hspbbp1	Nlrx1
Zfand4	Dnm1l	Hist1h2ac	Gm10384
Mthfd1l	Rad18	Gm6652	Gm7933
Dnajc27	Bace1	Mzb1	Dctd
Idh2	Ino80dos	Gm6505	Taf1a
Cad	Slc37a1	Zfp503	Fbxo9
Suv39h2	Nipsnap1	Gm5703	Plppr3
Katnal1	A1506816	Rasa1	H2-Q7
Adgrg3	Itgb3bp	Gm5251	Vkorc1l1
Fubp1	Ift27	Prdx6b	Zfp219
Fam133b	Pomgnt1	Oaz2	Crnde
Gm9797	Zc3h7b	Tpi1	Trap1
Eno1	Nt5c3b	Atg12	Arpp21
Ahdc1	Mterf2	Etfb	Zfp160

280 genes differentially downregulated in both CEBPA N321D and EV-transduced cells

Eya1	Ndufa4	Crtap	Gm12158
Car3	Ebf1	Hmgcll1	Adgrg1
Ybx3	Papss2	Igfbp7	Tmem108
Mmp11	Tfrc	Arhgap6	Dtnbp1
Tha1	Ccl9	Mpo	Gm3470
Prkar2b	Gm16194	Tsc22d1	Ptger2
Gm12611	Gm9143	Tspan6	Csgalnact1
AI314180	Mab21l1	9330159M07Rik	Itga9
Ift57	Ube2o	Ftsj1	Gpr12
Samsn1	Dab1	Ubash3a	Nrxn1
Gnpnat1	Clec4d	Ctsb	Sptbn1
Hist1h3f	Spry2	Plcb4	Hmga2
Ttc39c	Col4a5	Ms4a3	Slc28a2
Chchd10	Mtap	Gm14450	Afap1l1
Epha7	Rnf125	Gm12403	Mif
Meis1	Aebp1	Pcdh7	Gm15658
Ydjc	Prss57	Lsm3	Gm6065
Kit	Ssfa2	Mmp13	Ap3s1-ps1
Plod2	Erg	Nedd4	Sema3a
F2rl3	1700113H08Rik	Slc38a5	Ablim1
Pfkl	Gm10169	Fkbp11	Plxna3
Sipa1l1	Mt2	Ap3s1-ps2	Wdr60
Tst	Rbpms2	Ctla2a	Gm16302
Rcn2	Chsy1	Lbp	Gm5551
Hoxa10	Ddx4	Ighv1-23	Gm43489
Olfml2b	Gm43096	Chl1	Stat4
Sh3d19	Endod1	Cul7	Egln3
Itga6	Acot3	Tacstd2	Dgat2
Zfp703	Bphl	Pglyrp1	Zxdc
Gse1	Psmd5	Chek1	Gm7389
Por	Bmx	Fam136a	Trem3
Cela1	Plscr1	Gfra2	Pde2a
Pnkd	Gm29397	Slc35b4	Galnt14
3000002C10Rik	Hilpda	Hoxa9	Emid1
Sigirr	Gtf2f2	Arhgap18	Mmp12
Gjb3	Gm17149	9630013D21Rik	Fndc3b
Rasgrp2	Gm11349	Ergic1	Slc19a1
4930519L02Rik	Tespa1	Ppic	Elane
Gcnt4	Gm16897	Cd320	Gm4705
Clec4e	Hlf	Pfas	2310075C17Rik
Ocr1	Atp11a	Tyms	Gm15581
Reps1	Igkv12-89	Gm37818	Timm8a1
Kcnq3	Bhlhe41	Mcpt8	Cdkn2c
Calcr1	Igll1	Gm6104	8430408G22Rik
Hist1h1a	Il6	Sapcd2	Psd3
Nrg1	Fam162a	Rag1	Rgcc
Dab2ip	G6pc3	Cd34	Dnajc6
Gab1	Impdh1	Dntt	Ttil9
Ascl2	Dlg2	Lmo4	Gm16104
Flnb	Vat1	Rsph9	Muc13
Limch1	Anxa9	Armxc1	Ptgds
Prodh	Gimap5	Abhd17c	Igkv4-90
Angpt1	Acot1	Hk3	Mllt3
Gca	Dtd1	Mcf2	Nkg7
2300009A05Rik	Galc	Tmem40	Gstt2
Hist1h3d	Srgn	Nfe2	Rbpms
Slc17a9	Chchd4	Acyp1	Adgrg7
Nicn1	Nipsnap3b	Parp16	Cdc14b
Gfra1	Lima1	Ptk7	Psat1
Hmgcr	Col23a1	Gda	Ap3s1
Mt1	Slc22a4	B230118H07Rik	Zfp934
Fat4	Ltbp3	Hgf	Ednra
Gimap9	Stap1	Ptprm	Car2
1700012B09Rik	Gata3	Ero1l	Zhx2
Ppid	Efna5	Gm11998	Cit
Cited1	Serpnb1a	Gm14630	St6galnac3
Adgrl4	1700003F12Rik	Col4a6	Armxc4
Dok2	Ica1	Aasdhpt	Rag2
Asph	Nrgn	Rab44	Dus4l
Ppp1cb	Vamp5	Gm5530	Gpc3

Table 8: Genes switched on and switched off by the *CEBPA* N321D mutation

385 genes switched off by the <i>CEBPA</i> N321D mutation			
Slc7a8	Gm15448	Rab32	Gm15753
Spib	Fcgr1	Atp2b1	Card19
Gbp2	Fcgr3	Gpr160	Wipf1
Fam46c	H2-Ab1	Gm7676	Lamp2
Trem2	Rsad2	Slc35f6	Morc3
Acvrl1	Cass4	HaCD4	Gm12166
Ms4a7	Arhgap30	Lpcat4	Sec24b
Fcgr4	Casp4	Zfyve26	Npc2
Ifit1b1	L1cam	B4galt5	Efhd2
Smpd13b	Isg20	Mcl1	Actg-ps1
Cxcl10	Cnr2	Vwa5a	Msrbl
Slfn1	Icosl	Gpr137b-ps	Ccdc86
Cxcl16	Gm5431	Peli1	Gm12164
Adgre4	Adora3	Samd9l	CD48
Fgl2	Naip6	Gm8902	Dpysl2
Ifit1	Apobec1	Irf1	Gm23374
Apoc2	Tnf	S100a11	Kctd12
Phf11d	Lmln	Nmi	Atp6v1b2
Slamf9	Adgre1	Ccnd1	Ms4a6c
Plxdc1	Gadd45g	Jak2	Sp110
H2-Aa	Dock5	H2-K2	Rgs2
Nfatc2	Mgl2	Herc6	Gm8399
Tlr13	Slc15a3	B3gnt8	Arrb2
Gm12250	Naaa	Cdk13	Tmem9b
Rgs1	Oas1a	Adam15	Esyt1
Phf11a	Ids	Hgsnat	Pik3cd
Tlr7	Lilra6	C130026I21Rik	Gm4760
C3ar1	Hcar2	Pik3ap1	Gngt2
H2-Eb1	CD40	Slc29a3	Rnf34
Il18	Tbc1d8	Eif2ak2	Snx2
AW112010	Clec4a1	Nfkbid	Cyb561a3
Aim1	Lacc1	Sema4a	Rnf114
C1qb	Sorl1	Cotl1	Flna
Fam129a	Ciart	Myo1c	Ftl1-ps1
Pilrb2	Dab2	Vasp	Nampt
Trim30c	Ifi203-ps	Plin2	Anxa2
Slc37a2	Sertad1	Sft2d1	Hexa
CD80	Hck	Crip1	Acta2
Cd22	Oasl1	Nfkb2	Syngt2
Gm37347	Ifi204	Gm7665	Cndp2
Zfp467	Plaur	Prkch	Dck
Arl5c	Dusp1	Taf13	Cstb
Fgr	P2rx4	Klf6	Tmem219
Id3	Parp12	Akt3	Acot10
Siglec1	Irak2	Dennd1b	Gm12715
Tlr4	Atf3	Gm11189	Ppp1r18
Nxpe4	Zfp36	Slfn8	Taldo1
Msr1	Anxa1	Gltpt	Sh3glb1
Cxcl2	Ifi47	AC132444.1	Rhog
Bco2	Fry	Camk1	Ftl1
Maf	Tmem176b	H2-DMA	Swap70
Clec4b1	Trim5	Lipa	Gm12791
Trim30b	Zbp1	Rap2c	Rel
Ifit3b	Sirpa	Mvp	Twf2
Klk1b11	Cyp4f18	Ifi35	Gm12428
Ltb4r1	Gm15922	Itpr1	Actg1
Ccdc109b	Cttnbp2nl	Ero1lb	Ywhah
Tnfr3	Gm6377	Pstpip1	Cnn2
9430076C15Rik	Il2rg	Pnpla7	Cyba
Clec4a4	Csf2ra	Tmsb4x	Rab8a
Lpl	Il15	Selplg	Ptpn1
C1qc	Tmem86a	Ncoa3	Rnpep
Dpp4	Fos	Dtx3l	Gm5548
Clec4n	Bhlhe40	Dusp3	Ddit3
Tlr1	Lrrc25	Ep300	Gm17087
Phf11b	H2-DMb1	Picalm	Scand1
Cd274	Rnf213	Gm4918	0610012G03Rik
4930430E12Rik	Il12rb2	Rc3h1	Mapk14

Rasgef1b	Pid1	Ggh	Ctsd
Tnfsf8	Grasp	M6pr-ps	Gm8185
Slamf7	Etv3	Plxnc1	Actb
P2ry12	Gm6175	M6pr	Ccdc50
1600010M07Rik	Gsap	Mycbp2	Crif2
Ifit2	Tmem150b	Tnfrsf1a	Laptm4a
St18	Junb	Creb3	Iqgap1
Card11	Fam26f	Gm21738	Ttc7
Ifit3	Ctsc	Abhd12	Gm14856
Tmem106a	Skil	Hexb	Degs1
Oas1g	Ptafr	Cd9-ps	Necap2
Kynu	Zfp361l	Acss1	Gm12543
Tgfb1	Zc3h12a	Ifngr2	Arf5
Ifi213	Sifn9	Fam69a	Gm4750
Hpgds	Egr1	Gm16026	Gnaz
Sirpb1b	Irgm1	Ly9	Gm8464
Alox5	Plekhn3	Tnfaip8l2	Gnai2
Cdk14	Abcg1	Stard3nl	Wdr1
Gm20559	Fbxw17	Nrp1	Atp6v0c
Clec9a	S100a6	Prdx5	Psbmb10
Gbp4	Ptms	Ppp2r5a	Cst12
Lyz1	Gm20432	Gm10800	Rap1b
St8sia1	Pfkfb4	Cd9	Malat1
Ms4a4a	Txndc16	Hist3h2a	Gm8822
Lrp1	Ier5	Ifi214	Iitm2b
Ccrl2	Emilin2	Cln3	Ier2
Aoah	Pim1	Mndal	
Upb1	Ifi30	Vim	
Aif1	Gm1966	Stk38	

133 genes switched on by the *CEBPA* N321D mutation

Zfp329	Fktn	Zfp369	Srek1ip1
Zfp184	Thap2	Myl4	Cdk6
Tnfrsf26	Pex10	Ldlrad4	Ppp1r14b
Cbx2	Gm20696	Ino80dos	Gm5124
Cd27	Fabp5	Ada	Dkc1
Abcd2	Tnfrsf22	CD81	Bzw2
Osbpl5	Gm1976	Cmss1	Ddx1
Aasdh	Gm9847	Tspan13	Lyar
Abhd6	Spata7	Arap2	1110038B12Rik
Rcn1	2810403D21Rik	1190007I07Rik	Gm17230
Col19a1	Gm13998	H2-Q7	Mettl1
Hemk1	Gm14328	Sdc1	Gm16379
Cbx6	9230114K14Rik	Hmgb3	Gm13719
Htra3	Klf16	Bag2	Snhg15
Taco1	Gm6166	Dtx4	Gm7332
Katnal1	Zfp932	Zbed4	Gm4737
Ccdc66	Tspan2	Elk3	Gm15659
Afap1	Zfp113	Ptprcap	Gm9826
4930520O04Rik	Rrp12	Gm7901	Gm10020
Ctxn1	Tspan32	Mycbp	Ncl
Ccdc15	Mnd1	Phgdh	Nudcd2
Spice1	Mnd1-ps	Gm5847	Paip2b
Ankrd26	Il12a	Xpc	Tufm
Pi15	AI987944	Smpd4	Gm12020
Zfp160	Myb	Cdca7	mt-Te
Mgmt	Kif17	Zfp687	Ahcy
Rpusd2	Rdh13	3110040N11Rik	Ssbp1
Bhlhb9	Cnn3	Bace1	Gm17837
Oxnad1	Cep97	B3gnt2	Hspd1
Gm10384	Gm20342	H2-Q6	Ak2
Snappc4	Trp53rkb	Ifi27	Hspd1-ps3
Socs2	Jpx	Serf1	
Amer1	Yod1	Gm5385	
Gas2	Gm17936	Adgrg3	

Table 9: Genes upregulated during culture for 5 days in Flt3L differentiation media

637 genes upregulated in main population of 78 CEBPA N321D-transduced cells			
Siglech	Il6st	Ifnar2	Gpsm3
Ms4a4c	Gm42641	Prkx	Klf13
Tpm2	Parp14	Gatsl2	Tnfrsf13b
Klrk1	Gas7	Gm14699	Gm4875
Clec7a	Id2	Hes6	Uvrag
Oasl2	Vsir	Tapbp	Trim25
Rnase6	Tmcc3	H2-T23	Bloc1s1
Oas2	Mx2	Naga	Pink1
Lair1	Ighj2	Tyrobp	Nfkbia
Cd300lf	Fads3	Gm17791	Fli1
Al839979	Trim34a	Avl9	Dleu2
Pilra	Znfx1	Gm8995	Smim3
D930048N14Rik	Lhfp	Plec	Rapgef1
Tmem51	Fyb	Bmyc	Fmn1
Fabp4	Gm12892	D1Ert622e	Myo1f
Mir22hg	Bach2	Necap1	Capg
Chrng	Ckb	Epn1	Dap
Kctd14	Camk1d	Fam174a	Mpc2
Smim5	Galnt10	Cnp	Satb1
Cx3cr1	Tdrd7	Trafd1	Pecam1
Slfn2	Gm15417	Tor3a	Tiparp
Myog	Gpr141	Egfl7	Fkbp15
Ly6c2	Ly6a	Iffo1	Xiap
Klhl30	Cd300c2	Gpcpd1	Ssh2
Il10ra	Rnf150	Adgre5	Sesn1
Lifr	Slc46a3	Scpep1	Gm13669
Frmd4b	Plekha1	Vps37b	Aagab
Itgax	Zfp933	Anxa6	Gm8752
Ptpro	Myadm	Arhgap9	Gng2-ps1
Clec10a	Pacs2	Stat1	Mtmr14
Dpep2	9930111J21Rik1	Lamp1	Hmha1
Alcam	Isg15	Serpinf1	Mtpn
Plekhg5	Ms4a6b	Ypel5	Prkcd
Ifi207	Gm15987	Atp1b3	Ctsz
Lcp2	Ccdc180	CD82	Alox5ap
Ahnak	Dusp7	Gm11787	Ifi35
Slc37a3	Tmem229b	Lst1	Ythdf3
Ly86	Rgs10	Spi1	Notch2
Gpr34	BE692007	Gm1848	Alyref2
Cd74	Zfp947	Gm26798	Man2b1
Lsp1	Cd28	Il4ra	Ptpn6
Ccr1	Sgcb	Mkrn1	Wdr26
Epb41l4b	Mroh1	Plac8	Runx1
I830127L07Rik	CD163	Klhl6	Nptn
Gpr183	Mpeg1	Sp100	Mef2c
Ctsh	Neat1	Gm3788	Trappc5
Csf1r	Lbh	Tulp4	Heg1
Cds1	Ctns	Pip4k2a	Tpd52-ps
Ifi27l2a	Slc12a9	Bcl2l11	Sh3bp1
Sgcg	Ap1s2	Tubb6	Hcls1
Il1r2	Clec4a3	Bcl2	Gosr2
Cd300c	Ypel3	Hps3	Mef2d
Pirb	Ube2l6	Ctsb	Prr13
Lgals3	Parp11	Fam105a	D930015E06Rik
Dusp22	P2rx7	Plxnb2	Zeb2
Nlrp3	Fkbp1b	S100a4	Pitpna
Klr1d	N4bp3	Ocel1	Fam168b
Rbm47	D8Ert82e	Zbtb20	Gm28875
Sema6d	Irf9	Fam65b	Man1b1
Pld4	Rasa4	Soat1	Nfatc1
Clec4a2	Tmed8	Mef2a	Sppl2a
Gcnt2	Evi2a	Hoxb8	Plekhf2
Oas3	Borcs6	Bst2	Tm6sf1
Csf2rb2	Filip1l	Epsti1	Mpc1-ps
Tpst1	Fam234a	Anxa5	Ivns1abp
March1	Hotairm1	Gm7285	Gm6169
Itgb7	Tlr2	Mkrn1-ps1	Gm12854
P2ry13	Itgb2	Pak1	5730416F02Rik
Usp18	Themis2	1700025G04Rik	Cirbp

Apba1	Cd68	CD180	Smim20
Tnfrsf23	Sik1	Fbxw4	Ctsa
Tnfsf9	Prr5	Irf2bp2	Gm12345
Slc14a1	Cd300lb	Ifi203	Syk
Mx1	Psap	Fads2	Ccl3
Ctnnd2	Slc44a1	Sh2b3	Parp8
Ctss	Grn	Prex1	Abi1
Tagap	Gpr137b-ps	Gm15989	Lasp1
Rin2	Nceh1	Stk17b	Tmed3
Ighj1	Ms4a4b	Zfp296	Gm8181
Rubcnl	Osbp13	Sft2d2	S100a10
Slc9a7	Atp7a	Cytip	Trpc4ap
Slc16a7	Tubb2a	Gm14032	Gm8666
Six1	Abhd15	Pafah1b3	Akirin1-ps
Il13ra1	Rab7b	Dr1	Was
Lgmn	Cyth4	Zufsp	Ogfr
Gm7694	Plekho1	Parp9	Cyfp1
Cysltr1	St3gal5	Gm4992	2010001K21Rik
Kmo	Tecpr1	St8sia4	Whsc1l1
Scin	5031439G07Rik	Lgals3bp	Ifitm3
Abcb4	H2-T-ps	Zfp263	Plp2
Tns1	Notch1	Pisd-ps1	Asah1
Klrb1c	Stat2	Tifa	Rps6ka1
Cfh	Inpp4a	Arhgap17	Arl6ip5
Pstpip2	Dcaf10	Arhgef12	Znrf1
Clec2i	Unc93b1	Bex6	Bnip3l
Pira2	Gm5398	Ppm1m	Usf1
Lilrb4a	Tep1	Lyz2	C330007P06Rik
Ctse	Rcan3	Rprd2	Acaa1a
Itgam	Tmem229b-ps	Hlx	Fndc3a
Tfeb	Lpxn	Zfp62	Ubl3
BC147527	Tmem119	Gns	Gm11663
Tmem8c	Blvrb	Dhrs3	Slc44a2
Cmah	Selenop	Map4	Gm17887
Nos1ap	9930111J21Rik2	Tspo	Cmtm6
Sdc3	Sdc4	Snx20	Grk2
P2ry6	Sema4d	Mbnl1	Vamp2
Lilr4b	A530040E14Rik	Lyn	Ddx24
Slfn5	Gm5552	Fam76b	Litaf
Ighm	Cst3	Sp140	Nrros
Ms4a6d	Dusp5	Rpph1	H2-T22
Mylpf	Zbtb18	Fam129b	Rassf5
Wfdc17	E330020D12Rik	Tmem55b	Rnf130
Klra1	Sfxn3	Rmnd5b	2610206C17Rik
Cybb	Aldh3b1	Ehd4	Tor1aip1
Irf7	Usp12	Kcnk12	Nup210
Gm14548	Cd52	Nfam1	Arpc5l
Ifi211	Gab3	Tmem109	Fes
Rasgrp4	2310001H17Rik	Atp13a2	Slc6a6
I830077J02Rik	Irf5	Itm2c	Msn
Ifitm6	Cmpk2	Lnpep	Ap3b1
Cox6a2	Cd300a	Map3k1	Ncoa4
Mycl	Gfod1	Slc2a6	Pcyt1a
Arl4c	CD14	Cnbd2	Bloc1s2-ps
Bmf	Inpp5k	Ctnna1	Nkiras2
Klrb1f	Plcl2	Zbtb7a	Luc7l2
Hpse	Mtm1	Milr1	Gm16372
Fam214a	Fam134b	Gm6088	1110059G10Rik
Aph1c	Gm14608	Runx2	Setd2
Ak8	Acox3	Tec	Wasf2
Havcr2	Xaf1	Laptm5	Dgkd
Kdm7a	Trpv2	Cebpd	Pycard
Evl	Btg1	Cdkn1a	Serinc3
Tnni2	Trim12a	Gm2622	Zfp36l2
Klf3	Fgd2	Napsa	Reep5
Gm15931	Map3k5	Gm9844	Ptprc
Rtp4	Trim30a	AbCD1	Leng8
Dhx58	Sat1	Smim14	Limd2
Gsn	Pigv	Ccnd1	Tifab
Map3k8	Il6ra	Selenow	Sympk
Pik3r5	Sh2b2	Rsrp1	Cdc42se1
Ifi205	Pmaip1	Txnip	Bin1
Rogdi	Tubgcp5	Rab5a	Sh3bgrl3

Itga1	Cadm1	Igfbp4	Gabarap
Bcl6	Apc	Gm12045	Pcif1
Naip5	Gm8615	Tet2	Iqgap1
Irf8	Csf2rb	H2-M3	Arhgef6
Snx29	Gng2	Ube2a	Fxyd5
Cln8	Samhd1	Tpd52	Hmgcn1
Slc8a1	Med13l	Gm7936	Zc3hav1
Rara	Slfn8	Acer3	Gm7823
Ccl6	Tmem170b	Atp6v1d	Edem1
Ighj4	Zfp385a	Il17ra	Tmem261
Rassf4	Gcnt1	Tmsb10	Gm12420
Axl	Uba7	Tmem50b	Dpysl2
Srpk3	Ly6e	Bri3	Cdc42se2
Ebi3	Shisa5	Cbfa2t3	Cyb5r4
Ms4a6c	H1f0	Snx30	Flna
Arhgap5	Stx7	Cd93	
Trim30d	Cfp	Adcy7	
Shisa2	Slc27a1	Tcirg1	

21 genes upregulated in subpopulation of 5 *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells

Ly86	Gm2965	Mpc1-ps	Gm15148
Csf1r	Fcer1g	Dynlt1b	Rpl30
Ccl3	Rps15a-ps7	Gm21399	Lgals1
Plac8	Gm14539	Rps15a-ps5	
Cd52	Ly6e	Gm8430	
Lst1	Atp6v0e	Prdx1	

1399 genes upregulated in EV-transduced cells

Ly6a	Fgd3	Trim12c	Trim25
Mx1	Gsn	Bcl6	Tbc1d13
Axl	Rasa4	Ly9	Ppp2r5a
Ms4a4a	Tmem86a	Ifi209	Osbpl9
Ifit1	Naga	Nckipso	Atg7
Trem2	Cyp4f18	Sema4d	Pik3ap1
Spib	Sat1	Tifa	Hk2
Slamf7	Shisa5	Daxx	Coro1a
Tmem51	Ddx58	Gm4918	Grina
Frmd4b	2810405F17Rik	Pdlim5	Tle3
Ifit3b	Zfp467	Cebpd	Abcg1
Slfn1	Atf3	Tmem9b	Bcl10
Phf11d	Nfkbid	Gpr132	Med10
Cysltr1	9430034N14Rik	Pmaip1	Arhgap25
Tnfrsf8	Klf3	Spi1	Slc25a45
Klra17	Epsti1	Lyn	Tet2
Acvrl1	Slfn8	Mgat4a	Ubl3
Plxdc1	Soat1	Hist3h2a	Pitpna
Tlr1	Sdc4	Fmn1	N4bp2l1
Gm12250	Rogdi	Lpp	Tubgcp5
Itgax	Isg20	Gm8995	Rap2b
St8sia1	CD14	Nfkbiz	S100a6
Ifit1bl1	Fkbp1b	Slc15a4	Nampt
Nfatc2	Susd3	Tspo	Gpcpd1
Scimp	Tlr4	Arrb2	Aff1
Rras2	Il12rb2	Ypel5	Acss1
Epb41l4b	Crybg3	Rab32	Foxred2
Apoc2	Irak2	Ptger4	A230046K03Rik
Mycl	Sh3tc1	Eif2ak2	Usp1
Gbp9	Cd68	Arhgap17	Ubc
Tlr9	Gm5552	Diaph2	Capn2
Ifit3	Zfp36	Sik1	Gm13212
Id3	Zbtb7b	Cotl1	Actg-ps1
Pid1	Trim34a	Zc3hav1	Sdccag3
Oas2	Lmfn	Sppl2a	Sbno2
Il13ra1	Cln8	Anxa4	Pisd
H2-Aa	Irf5	Il15	Ptk2b
Siglech	Hpgds	Tnni2	Sirt7
Cd74	Zfp382	Creb3	Fuca1

Oasl1	Vwa5a	Nfkb2	Ccl3
Lilra6	Rara	Prkcd	Rnf167
Ms4a4c	Cnr2	Tax1bp3	Ftl1
Adgre4	Prkch	Sft2d1	Gm9025
Lilr4b	Lrp1	Slc43a2	Ifih1
Clec4a3	Arhgap30	Iqgap1	Wipf1
Ctnnd2	Pstpip2	Itpr1	Ostf1
Trim30b	Ighj2	Mcl1	Vrk1
Dpep2	Lrrc75a	Efhd2	Gm3145
Gbp4	Ctsb	Tnfrsf1a	Cib1
Fcgr1	H2-DMb2	Ppm1h	Sap30
Ms4a7	Metrn1	Lipe	Map3k1
Bcl3	Ebi3	Ncoa3	Il3ra
Slc37a3	Adap2os	Tcf19	Fcgr3
Ctsh	Gm14699	Gm7665	Atp6v0c
Ccdc109b	Lpin1	Tcirg1	Zfp277
P2ry13	Rnd3	Arid5a	Rnf34
Fam129a	Filip1l	Gm7357	Ifngr1
Tlr7	Tnfaip2	Gm11787	Mob1a
Ahnak	Slc9a7	Akna	Pttg1
Ly86	Raph1	Lpar6	Dbnl
Pik3r5	Fbxw17	Npc2	Myo1c
Slfn2	Fry	Gm4875	Msrbl
Rsad2	Il6st	Net1	Cd244
P2ry10	Gm15503	Lasp1	Gm6615
Oasl2	Gas7	AC133103.1	Sh3bgrl3
Ifi207	Themis2	Ptpn6	BC005537
Cybb	Slc12a9	Dennd1c	Gm10801
Ly6c2	Ccr12	Slc25a22	Fcer1g
Csf1r	Ly6c1	Ctsa	Bin1
Lilrb4a	Neurl3	Gm15753	Arpc5
P2rx7	Plpp6	Itm2c	Ctnna1
Clec7a	Cd300a	Dck	Hcls1
Sdc3	Itga1	Gm16205	Gna13
Ifi205	Pak1	Fxyd5	Nfe2l2
Ptpro	Naip5	Dtx3l	Sgk3
Clec4a1	9930111J21Rik2	Chmp4b	Limd2
Cxcl16	Ccl4	Nkiras2	Mfsd5
Klrl1	Slc16a7	Litaf	Hmha1
Phf11b	Rasgef1b	Map4	Gm7823
Slfn5	Inpp4a	Tnfaip8l2	Psmb10
L1cam	Gm3788	Zyx	Elmo2
P2ry6	Junb	Cmtm3	Rbpj
Cfh	Lpxn	Itpr1	Tmed3
Usp18	Cst3	Pag1	Cd2ap
Ccr1	Gm14032	Acdb5	1600014C10Rik
Zbp1	H2-T23	Abcd1	Cd53
Ifi27l2a	Aph1c	Rgs2	Ncf2
Ifi211	Sirpa	Asah1	Sirt2
Cd300lf	Arhgap5	Gm21975	Akr1a1
Clec4n	Nfam1	Mpc1-ps	0610012G03Rik
Tpst1	St3gal2	Plekhg3	Gm7936
Aif1	Maml1	Laptm5	Cln3
Rnase6	Ccdc180	Plec	Whsc1l1
Pilra	Skil	Lgals8	Prkd3
Lgals3	Rgs3	Syng2	Selenow
Tlr13	Herc6	Fbrsl1	Cbl
March1	5031439G07Rik	Dab2	Ccdc86
Irf7	Gm9844	Sh3glb1	Rchy1
Cttnbp2nl	Fgd2	Cdkn1a	Plin2
Cass4	Snx21	Cmtr1	Sec24b
Fads3	Armc7	Pim1	Racgap1
Slc15a3	Grasp	Nmi	Erlin1
Rin2	Klf4	Snx2	Gabarap
Nlrp3	Trafd1	Taf13	M6pr-ps
Clec4a2	Zcchc2	Gm4992	2310035C23Rik
Gpr34	Slfn9	Peli1	Lrrk1
Lsp1	Zfp36l1	Epn1	Ppp1r18
Trim30d	Tubb2a	Neddd9	Cst12
Fcgr4	Slc29a3	Tmem229b	Cdc42se1
Gm14548	Tmsb10	H2-T22	Stat6
Msr1	Ap1s2	Wdr44	Rraga
Klrd1	Lbh	Spaca9	Calm1

Cd300c	Camk1d	Dnajb14	Gpr108
CD40	Cd300lb	Plac8	Gng10
Il10ra	S100a4	Dock5	Leprot
Rasgrp4	Mdfic	Nuak2	Rpph1
Isg15	Scpep1	Gm20432	Gm6263
Gm20559	Zc3h12a	Cyp4f16	Hmgcl
H2-Eb1	Plaur	Necap1	Nrros
Ifitm6	Sp140	Cmtm6	Slc35c2
Naaa	Gpr146	Ankfy1	Aim2
Cx3cr1	Ifitm3	CAA01147332.1	Vasp
Dusp22	Rnf213	Pcsk7	Inpp5k
Tnip3	Havcr2	Mycbp2	Fnip1
Mx2	Casp4	Birc3	Arf5
Gm5431	Lrrk2	Gm13392	Gm17791
Gbp2	Dusp1	Gm7676	Hpcal1
Apba1	Galnt10	Ptpn1	Lactb
Aim1	Fcor	Sertad1	Actg1
Oas1a	Rell1	Myd88	Pepd
Gpr183	F630028O10Rik	Mbnl1	Tnfrsf13b
Cxcl10	Arhgef12	Vim	Cnn2
Itgb7	Il4ra	Usf2	Nt5c3
Ctss	Plekho1	Dennd1b	Fnbp1
Lgmn	Gsap	Dram2	Hcfc1r1
Pirb	AW112010	Tulp4	Ccdc88a
Smpdl3b	Tecpr1	Tmem184b	Slc34a2
Fyb	Cadm1	Degs1	Polb
Slc37a2	Btg1	Zfp992	AB124611
Dock4	Ifi35	Gng2-ps1	Esyt1
C3ar1	Csf2ra	Slc25a38	Dcaf11
Phf11a	Ltb4r1	Vps37a	Gm6977
Pilrb1	Plekha1	Rnf115	Ttyh3
Pira2	Dusp5	Gm43245	Cmip
Clec10a	Prr5	Ptpn22	Gm5590
Il1r2	Sp100	Sp110	Slc44a2
Btg2	Etv3	Gm5578	Wdr45b
C1qb	Bst2	Rps6ka5	Lcp1
Cds1	Trpv2	Milr1	Rp2
Tnf	Igsf6	Cyba	Hexa
Kmo	Jak2	Antxr2	Zbtb7a
Pilrb2	Amn1	Pip4k2a	Gm8577
Trim30c	Mir22hg	Adam15	Gm8822
AI839979	Lacc1	Lrch3	Tmem173
Fgl2	Tlr2	Man2b1	Ifnar1
Hcar2	Ccnd1	Gpr171	Tm2d2
Ccl2	Tnfrsf14	Fam129b	Gm15487
Itgam	Neat1	Gm4760	Max
Pld4	Myo1f	1110008P14Rik	Map7d1
Oas1g	Anxa5	Mov10	Mical1
Il18	Gm8902	Tfe3	Tmem243
Id2	Ifi203	Stard3nl	M6pr
Cd22	Sorl1	Ap2a2	Fkbp15
Ms4a6d	Slc46a3	Gng2	2010001K21Rik
Card11	Gm43330	Cstb	Anxa2
Tnfsf9	Cfp	Arhgap9	Epb41l2
Lyz2	Ncoa7	Klhl6	Renbp
Arl5c	Plxnb2	5730416F02Rik	Slc35c1
Stard9	Gm15417	Rcbtb2	Acaa1b
Ccl6	Tdrd7	Gm5046	Lrrfip2
Atp1b1	Slc35f6	Cdk13	Acot10
Ifit2	Bcl2l11	Stard3	Prr13
Ifi204	Padi2	H1f0	Ostm1
3110043O21Rik	Frmd4a	Gm13535	Ascc3
Cd300c2	HaCD4	Rnf114	Acap2
Gadd45g	Itipr12	Stxbp3-ps	Actr3
Ctse	Paqr4	Sgpp1	Fth1
Chn2	Tapbp1	Rap2c	Nipa2
Tmem154	Carmil1	Lmo1	Gm12715
Gpr137b-ps	Lyst	Prkx	Gm6305
Fgr	Gm37589	B4galt5	Psme2b
Ube2l6	Nr4a1	Capg	Gm14856
Upb1	Plxnc1	Brox	Spop
St18	Prkab2	Rnf166	Sp2
Parp14	Ly6e	Gm12003	Tet3

Rbm47	Ptafr	Sh2b3	Grk2
Tmem106a	Tmem176b	Picalm	Gm12428
0610040J01Rik	Gm5763	Iqgap2	Crif2
Evl	Tyrobp	Klf13	Nfkbib
Tfeb	E2f2	Map2k1	Swap70
Clec4b1	Acox3	Gm11189	Gm23374
Oas3	Trim5	Clcn7	Atp6v0d1
Adgre1	Bmyc	Tpm4	Xbp1
Fam46c	Fnip2	Pqlc3	Scn4b
Dram1	Rubcnl	Plekho2	Sqstm1
Maf	Kctd12	Txnip	Pstpip1
Lifr	P2rx4	CD48	2610206C17Rik
Gm37347	Napsa	Scarb2	Pisd-ps1
Ifi208	P2ry14	Gm7809	Ttc7
Gpr18	Hps3	Rab3d	Fuca2
Adora3	Slc8b1	Snx20	Gm13077
Siglec1	Tmem109	Parp10	Skap2
Smim5	Fam26f	Rnf31	Sdhaf2
Gm15987	Lgals3bp	Cyld	Ftl1-ps1
Ms4a6b	Npc1	Acta2	Actr2
Adap2	Dclre1c	Hsd17b4	Zcchc6
Kctd14	Dennd1a	Mknk1	Acaa1a
Nxpe4	Tapbp	Camk1	Emp3
9430076C15Rik	Gm8369	Ncor2	Atp6v1d
C3	Ifi203-ps	Rgs14	Arhgap4
Ifi206	Malt1	Smim3	Eif2ak1
P2ry12	Bri3	Mafk	Rel
Gm15931	AC132444.1	Usp25	Acot9
Alox5	Apobec1	Twf2	Rabep1
Wfdc17	Tep1	Arhgef6	Cast
Cd300lg	Zfand2a	Abhd12	Fes
Socs1	Lmna	Nfatc1	Abi1
B430306N03Rik	Il6ra	Gnai2	Tacc1
Naip6	Kif1b	Tiparp	Psme2
Csf2rb2	Il21r	Arl8a	Cldnd1
Klk1b11	Tmem55b	Cndp2	Lamtor1
Cxcl2	Plcl2	Rnf13	Ints4
Slc14a1	CD82	Cnp	Keap1
Grap	Hmox1	Cxcr4	Gm5510
Cmpk2	Lst1	Klf10	Ier2
Bco2	Hgsnat	Msn	Ccdc50
I830127L07Rik	Pelo	Mpp1	Itm2b
Ms4a4b	Trim12a	Gcnt1	Cap1
Lcp2	Ifngr2	Haus8	March5
Bach2	E2f7	Cyfp1	Rbms1
Lyz1	Rgl1	Pqlc1	Gm14000
Clec4a4	H2-Ab1	Vcpip1	Bloc1s1
Znfx1	Ifi214	St8sia4	Pias1
Gm15922	Aldh3a2	Rhog	Vcl
C1qc	Rmnd5b	Vps37b	Commd8
Gm15448	Ncoa1	Flna	Psme1
Vsir	Ptprj	Bet1l	Tmod3
Socs3	Atp2b1	Gnpda1	Rab8a
Tbc1d8	Hck	Gm14608	Myo9b
Gm5398	S100a10	Fos	Sub1
Dpp4	Plekkg5	Pycard	Snap23
Parp12	Alox5ap	Plekhh2	Grb2
Dusp10	Hdac4	Dpy19l1	Tmem192
Tagap	Usp12	Stam2	Tmem134
Lpl	Irf1	Mvp	Rbfa
Fcgrt	Cdk14	Capza2	Wdr26
Lair1	Zufsp	Necap2	Rac1
Ighj1	Notch2	Mif4gd	Smap1
Kynu	Synj1	Gm18588	Gm5828
Cd274	Rps6ka4	Tmem189	Ndel1
Myadm	Slc26a2	Add3	Gngt2
Irgm2	Plekhh1	Ypel3	Macf1
Sirpb1b	Tmem50b	Rassf1	Rtn4
9930111J21Rik1	Ctsc	Slc6a6	Gm15899
Ifi213	Stx7	Ifi47	Mysm1
4930430E12Rik	Gpsm3	Il17ra	Nadk
Zfp385a	Rgs1	Gm26740	Il2rg
Tbc1d9	Ppp6r1	Ehbp1l1	G6pdx

Ms4a6c	4833421G17Rik	Ddi2	Apbb1ip
Pfkfb4	S100a11	Plekhhb2	Cd9-ps
Traf5	Ciart	Rnh1	Smim14
BC147527	Lamp1	Sft2d2	Tor1a
Xaf1	Cnbd2	Rnpep	Malat1
Clec9a	Aoah	Gns	Atp6v1e1
Dhx58	Mndal	Dtx2	Spg21
Blvrb	5430427O19Rik	Gnaz	Myo1g
Alcam	Ifi30	Mtf1	Gm5548
Gcnt2	CD180	Tmem219	Ankrd44
Gpr155	Ctsz	Fem1c	Uvrag
CD86	E330020D12Rik	Morc3	Atp6v1b2
1600010M07Rik	Cic	Stk38	Zfp36l2
Slc7a8	H2-K2	Dna2	Gm7114
Tmcc3	Fam105a	Gm4962	Gm12791
Gm6175	Cyth4	Gpr160	Gm7776
Gm26637	Mef2a	Bex6	Syk
Psap	Cav2	Coro1b	Vamp3
Gm1966	Slc2a6	Pml	Cpne3
I830077J02Rik	Ddit3	Prdx5	Gm13453
Hpse	St3gal5	Zdhhc7	Mdm2
Stat2	Ifnar2	Trim26	Cd9
Rtp4	Gm12854	Cdc42se2	Gosr2
Asgr2	Tmem176a	Gm8464	Laptm4a
4930455G09Rik	Adar	Ehd4	Ralb
Ids	Egr1	Gm21738	Nub1
Samhd1	Wwp1	Spty2d1	Arhgdia
Gm42641	Sertad3	Gm10717	Ccdc50-ps
Rgs10	Gm9397	Gm13597	Gm8399
Map3k8	Csf2rb	Gm12166	Mapk14
Aldh3b1	Tor1aip1	Akt3	Sri
Rassf4	Tmsb4x	Nek7	Ywhah
Gpr141	Fam174a	Arhgap31	Arhgap15
Kdm7a	Prex1	Ptprc	Rn7sk
Ak8	Tnfsf12	Actb	Runx1
H2-T24	Parp9	Dpysl2	Smdt1
Ighj4	Klf6	Crip1	Xiap
Entpd1	Selplg	D1Ert622e	Rab1b
Mpeg1	Zfyve26	Lamp2	Fam49b
Cd52	Gm13669	Gm16026	Azi2
Txndc16	Mkrn1	Reep5	Azin1
CD80	Sesn2	Sgpl1	Atp6ap1
Arl4c	Tmem150b	Lipa	Gm2986
Lrrc25	Pot1b	Card19	Cdc42
S1pr2	Gm15989	Lrch1	Gm12226
Irf8	C130026I21Rik	Sidt2	Wdr1
Nostrin	Emilin2	Ppp3ca	Vps51
Klrb1f	Phactr2	Bin3	Erp29
Pea15a	Smox	Gsdmd	Gm12430
Bhlhe40	Dusp3	Gm8641	Tspyl1
Trim36	Tpd52-ps	Pik3cd	Far1
Grn	Irf2bp2	Cyb561a3	Ddx24
A530040E14Rik	Crybg3	Gm17087	Cln6
Ighm	B3gnt8	Mpc1	Chmp1a
Irf5	Acer3	Pdxk	Ctsd
Tor3a	Dhrs11	Dyrk1a	Ensa
Stat1	Nfkbia	Elmsan1	Gm42786
Icosl	Plp2	Gm12543	Mob3a
Slfn10-ps	Atp8a1	Nptn	Gm9392
Helz2	Gltp	Gm16372	Rps6ka1
Nos1ap	Lpcat4	Kif23	Ptpa
Ckb	Relb	Gm11405	Gm7367
Samd9l	H2-DMa	Ep300	Mvb12a
Irf9	Mkrn1-ps1	Gm12345	Taf6l
Cytip	Pnpla7	Srgap2	Oser1
Slamf9	Thap6	Slc31a1	Vapb
Gm6377	Hlx	Nagpa	Txndc15
Unc93b1	Camta2	Nfkb1	Gmip
Cd28	Parp3	Foxn2	Szrd1
Abhd15	Plod1	Gm4750	Mir6236
Selenop	Stk17b	Rin3	1700097N02Rik
BE692007	Dnase1l1	Zfp263	Arpc2
Plekhn3	Vhl	Atp6v0b	Smchd1

H2-DMb1	Sema4a	Mthfs	Rap1b
Clcn5	Tpd52	Zfp710	Herpud1
Sema4c	Uba7	Mfsd12	Rassf5
Ero1lb	Map3k3	Gna15	Ptp4a2
Mgl2	Hexb	Exoc3	Psen1
Irgm1	Sgcb	Ccr2	Gm15361
Itgb2	Rarg	Gm10800	Gm8185
Igtp	Rab7b	Rala	Dync1h1
Evi2a	Gvin1	Ythdf3	G6pd2
Rab3il1	Zfhx3	Anxa1	Clta
Tlr6	Ssh1	Gm6695	Snx10
N4bp3	Ppm1m	Pnkp	Nrp1
Fam69a	Mtmt14	Stxbp3	Ccdc12
Gm12892	Gm6169	Arl6ip5	Gak
Tgtp2	Anxa6	Scand1	Gm12164
Ptms	Trp53i13	Samd8	Serp1
Trim30a	Sh3bp2	Trim14	Arpc5l
Pacs2	Ogfr	Taldo1	Gm15534
Tgfb1	Ggh	Tec	

Table 10: Genes downregulated during culture for 5 days in Flt3L differentiation media

432 genes downregulated in main population of 78 CEBPA N321D-transduced cells

Gpc3	Ankrd37	Tmem108	Dtd1
Igll1	6030408B16Rik	Nrxn1	Hist1h3b
Zbtb16	1700012B09Rik	Plod2	Gm12611
Armcx1	Gm11998	Ctsf	Ero1l
Pcdh7	9630013D21Rik	Gm26597	G6pc3
Csgalnact1	Amz1	Tst	Flnb
Lbp	Zc4h2	Clec4e	2810408I11Rik
Ptk7	Vcan	Gpr65	Ydjc
Gfra2	Zbtb34	Gm16104	Mtap
P2rx3	Srxn1	Dab1	Ssbp3
Tspan6	Cdc14b	Col4a5	Tfrc
St6galnac3	Mmp11	Dusp19	Ifi47
8430408G22Rik	Col23a1	Hsd11b1	Rab44
Chl1	Ascl2	CD84	Asph
Mmp13	1700113H08Rik	Clec4d	Gtf2f2
Sema3a	Ube2o	Plscr1	Mmgt1
Ddx4	Gfra1	Spry2	Gm14038
Ms4a3	Nrg1	Depdc1b	Tgfb1
Gpr12	Zxdc	Gm5530	Gm43096
Kit	Ltbp3	Ttll9	Hilpda
Ctla2a	Dab2ip	Gstt2	Chchd10
Pde2a	Cela1	Sirt1	Ap3s1-ps2
Dlg2	Zhx2	Zfp704	Casp7
Hmgcll1	Ighv1-77	Fam46a	Erlin2
Fat4	Polm	Ptger2	Gm16194
Hlf	Pglyrp1	Gm29397	Ybx3
Aebp1	Gimap5	Gm37818	Hist1h2ae
Col4a6	Gm43489	Mpo	Ppid
Rag2	Mettl18	9330175E14Rik	Pfkl
Rbpms2	Hivep3	9330159M07Rik	Rmnd1
Angpt1	Zfp462	Nars2	Chek1
Trem1	Ankrd50	Gfpt1	Gm4705
Ebf1	Klhdc1	Galnt14	Psmd5
Prdm1	Mcpt8	Abcb1a	Gm17149
Ablim1	Il11ra1	Muc13	Endod1
Gata3	Afap1l1	TICD1	Gnpnat1
Tacstd2	Adgrg7	Fpgt	Vav3
Dntt	Ppic	Adcy9	Por
Ocr1	1700003F12Rik	Zc3hav1l	Ap3s1-ps1
Gab1	Rgs1	Fcgr3	Ap3s1
Sh3d19	Cul7	Pon3	Al314180
Hoxa10	Gm37354	Nfe2	Gm5551
Bmx	Rbpms	Fkbp11	Rasgrp2
Bhlhe41	Tmem132d	Impdh1	Mt1
Slc28a2	Rims2	Prodh	Lsm3
Limch1	Atp11a	Tespa1	Pfas
Gjb3	Hsd17b1	Sapcd2	Suco

Acot1	Ammecr1	Mt2	Sigirr
Car2	Ubxn11	Hist1h2an	Cit
Acot3	Tet1	Pvr	Crtap
4930519L02Rik	Kcnq3	Dok2	Arhgap18
Pi16	Hist1h3d	Man1a	Ftsj1
Rsph9	Mmp8	Ssfa2	Hist1h3c
BC026585	AW146154	Sipa1l1	Gm16302
Gimap9	Galc	Gse1	Fam60a
Adgrl4	Ptprm	Smtn	Tyms
Emid1	Rbakdn	Hist1h2bg	Nudt1
Mmp12	Wdr60	Spred2	Hist1h2ai
F2rl3	1110019D14Rik	Prkar2b	Atp11b
Rag1	Ubash3a	Hist1h3f	Gm7389
Efna5	Olfm12b	Rapsn	Rsu1
Il6	Nkg7	Ldlrad3	1810037I17Rik
Itga9	Dnajc6	Gm7805	3000002C10Rik
Trem3	Zfp758	Ednra	Aasdhppt
Vamp5	Tmem40	Dtnbp1	Fam136a
Slc22a4	Hist1h1a	Vat1	Ppp1cb
Tha1	Ttc39c	Ifi214	Pfdn4
Siglecf	Atp10a	Kdm1a	Hmgcr
Ighv1-23	Plcb2	Fndc3b	Mcf2
Igfbp7	Adgrg1	Itga6	Slc19a1
Gda	2310075C17Rik	Hist1h4n	Hist1h2ab
Ctla2b	Hist1h3e	Pam	Timm8a1
Csf3r	Crim1	Tgfb1	BC003965
Zfp27	Ptgds	Stap1	Lmo4
Gm3470	Gfi1	Cdkn2c	Sptbn1
Cited1	Tyw3	Abhd17c	Ift57
Zfp703	Rps6ka3	Dgat2	Eya1
Xrcc5	Gm43431	Rgs18	Gm13313
Fosb	Zfp934	Kdelc1	Rcn2
Als2	4933431K23Rik	Tmem29	Amd1
Trim68	Plcb4	Nrgn	Gm6104
Gcnt4	Gm15581	Zswim7	Ndufa4
St3gal6	Gm16897	Hist1h1d	Nedd4
Igkv4-90	Homez	Gtse1	Gm14450
Pomgnt2	Mab21l1	Egln3	Cenph
Nicn1	Rgcc	Gm15658	Mif
Hgf	Pygl	Hist1h1b	Chchd4
Six5	Ighmbp2	Anxa3	Rps29
Armcx4	Arhgap6	Reps1	Cryz1
4930486L24Rik	Lima1	Hoxa9	Srgn
B230118H07Rik	Ankrd24	Chsy1	Gm6065
Gm38345	Nrp2	Serp1nb1a	Gm11349
Asb1	Cd34	Adgra2	Orc3
Optn	Clec5a	Gm9143	Acyp1
Ica1	Rnf125	Slc17a9	Gm10169
Tnni3k	Slc35b4	AA474408	Gm5251
Gm12158	Hpgd	Prcc	Rpl15
MLlt3	Papss2	Hk3	Pnkd
Flt1	Epha7	Calcl	2300009A05Rik
Slc38a5	4930555A03Rik	Psat1	Bphl
Prss57	Slc11a1	Stat4	Gm14630
Plxna3	Parp16	Hmga2	Ube2w
Zfat	Erg	Steap3	Fam162a
Lekr1	Car3	Nipsnap3b	Cebpz
Igkv12-89	Hist1h3g	Samsn1	Ebna1bp2
Ift81	Meis1	Ccl9	Ergic1
Elane	Slco3a1	Tsc22d1	BC028528
Psd3	Dus4l	Tex30	Nop10

1942 genes downregulated in subpopulation of 5 *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells

Mmp13	Mgat4b	Rgp1	Phf12
Tnfrsf1b	Nfic	Myo18a	Nploc4
Trim16	Ank	Cops7b	Tmem165
Gpc3	Letmd1	Htatip2	Ptpn1
Ankle1	Ankrd13c	Mast3	Sharpin
Flcn	Vcl	Dhrs4	Gtf2h3
8430408G22Rik	Man1a	Traf4	Gk
Gfra1	Fam120b	Ddx19b	Wdr75
Rps6ka4	Lrrc45	Kifc1	Dna2

Manea	Mmab	Hsf1	Zwilch
Plcb3	Tsen54	Ifi206	Gm8546
Urgcp	B4galt7	Apba3	Cdk19
Osbpl5	Vps18	Abhd10	Cercam
Lcmt2	Pradc1	Dennd6a	Clec4e
Hlf	Hnrnp1l	Zfp777	Cdkn2aip
Noct	Scarb2	Thap3	Gm9774
March8	Dnal4	Ptpn9	Gm13803
Dus2	Rbm33	Mbd4	Rasgrp2
Slc25a15	Hsd11	Gpatch11	3000002C10Rik
Fam179b	Spg11	Slc35f5	Zc3h7b
Trim26	Tfec	Pard6a	Mmp8
Csgalnact1	Trappc6b	Ppm1b	Gm37784
P2ry2	Pex6	Epc2	Pck2
Hacl1	Blcap	Tbl2	Itga5
Ipo13	Zfp397	Fam53b	C2cd5
Ap5z1	Prss57	Kptn	Snord55
Pramef8	Socs4	Mier1	Frrs1
Klhl26	Armt1	Dnajc6	Gabpb2
Tle6	Med23	Clec4d	Pdhx
Faap100	Prdm1	Cep72	PdCD4
Tmem18	Nf2	Elp6	2310009A05Rik
Tango2	Tmem120a	Dicer1	Gm12791
Sepsecs	Cited2	Klhl15	Hgf
Btrc	Msi2	Hnrnpul2	Nup50
3110002H16Rik	Ptk2b	Dtwd1	Smtn
Irf1	Pon3	Stim2	Jarid2
Spryd4	Ndn12	Fam216a	Slc35b4
Acp2	Adgra2	Dclre1c	Fbxw11
B4gat1	Tspyl3	BC029722	Paf1
Idua	E4f1	Dcp1a	Phkg2
Ikbke	Pex3	Tnrc18	Hspa4
Mtmr3	Myd88	Ercc6	Gm2810
Polr3a	Nbeal2	Cntln	Dirc2
Dstyk	Ankfy1	Kdelc2	Supt6
Tubd1	Ints3	Optn	Rptor
Rufy1	Tgoln1	Isoc2b	Helz
Klhl22	4833420G17Rik	Antxr2	Stim1
Zscan21	Limk1	Sbno2	Uap111
Zfp574	Acadv1	Inf2	Gm1969
Fam160b2	Chek2	Tnip2	Gm29462
Slc25a44	Rab43	Tnip1	Rapgef1
Ltbp3	Clec5a	MLst8	Ppcdc
Samd10	Irak3	Tmub1	Aurka
Usp11	Mospd1	Tsen15	Rrp8
Tk2	Rad51d	Gmeb2	Zhx1
Vhl	Rbsn	2410004B18Rik	Rrp7a
Gpr160	Kif21b	Emilin2	Zcchc6
Igll1	Zfp608	Snapc5	Wdr5
Plekha7	Aars2	Dab2ip	Bhlhe41
Zgpat	Nfrkb	Tbc1d7	Gm7162
Zscan12	Osbpl9	Arhgap32	Bcl7b
Dennd1c	Dtx2	Myo9b	Gm15530
GuCD1	Trim11	Ift74	Vprbp
Scrn2	1810043G02Rik	Tbc1d1	Mcp1
Det1	Klhdc4	Rtf1	Gm8818
Parp10	Zfp639	Rsph9	Yif1b
Mutyh	Brf1	Ythdc1	Pik3ip1
Fbxl4	Fpgt	Paox	Rbms1
Ezh1	Fbxw8	Cntrob	Gm13517
Hsd17b7	Akap8l	Slc35a3	Mt2
Zbtb16	Nsl1	Xpa	Ska1
Pomk	Pddc1	Kpna6	Nr2c2
Ubash3a	Atg16l1	Mia3	Ing1
Socs5	Asb6	Wasl	Scamp2
Pcdh7	Kdm4c	Coa4	Ate1
Lss	Trem1	Kdm5c	Mapkap1
Tbc1d25	Mettl3	Anxa9	Rabepk
Tjp2	Prosc	Hck	Scaf1
Wipi1	Erbin	Kat6a	Ccdc43
Zfp523	Arhgap19	Tbp	Akt1
Pcp4l1	Srsf4	Mcm3ap	Fasn
Tbc1d10b	Plaur	Snapc1	Pprc1

Sdccag8	Map4k5	Champ1	Cenpe
Wrap53	Cast	Tcta	Ifitm1
Spice1	Nfatc3	Atat1	Actn4
Dhx34	Oip5	Cdc37l1	Mapk14
Ddx59	Fem1a	Zmym4	Tpm1
Ilvbl	DHRX	Prkag2	Acot7
Nrp2	Tyk2	Pip5k1a	Mrps5
Slc25a25	Cdk5	Rnf125	Dnajb12
Gfra2	Tmem214	Lrif1	Yif1a
Zswim1	Hibch	H2-Ab1	Golga5
Daglb	Dhx29	Kif18b	Pdpk1
Mon1a	Gpr180	Arnt	Kdm6a
Bbs2	Fam3a	Pura	Dctd
Slc2a3	Nol6	Arrdc3	Naa60
Brat1	Ctso	Kdm2b	Tagap1
Mettl8	Man1c1	Aco1	C330027C09Rik
Insig2	Trmt5	Nars2	Vav3
Pdik1l	AC149090.1	Tle3	Gm6158
Hps6	Zfp869	Insig1	Cdk16
Mr1	Etv5	Troap	Fam126b
Gsg2	Rint1	Oxnad1	Arhgap31
Ppp1r16a	MLlt10	Trmt61b	Gm6623
Cyp4f13	Dgcr14	Hps4	Ddx49
Cep131	Sgms1	Pigl	Ncf4
March2	Herc2	Gtf2ird2	Asl
Glpr2	Mab21l1	Polr3gl	Gm15800
Gclc	Phf14	Rnf213	Sppl2a
Fam174b	Azi2	Prune2	Raly
Armcx1	Brpf1	Fam219b	Sdc1
Tmem110	Eme1	Map1lc3a	Cnot1
Fam185a	Pigc	Xrcc2	Dhx36
Alg12	Gas2l3	Zfp668	Mthfd1l
Zfp729b	Lrp6	Nfkb2	Nudcd3
Spryd3	Utrn	Ubxn2b	Lonp1
9130011E15Rik	Nr2c1	Papss1	Dctn2
Pgpep1	Dennd4b	Ankra2	Micu2
Slc38a7	Caml	Cdk13	Arid1a
Slc37a1	Rtn4ip1	Lin37	Nomo1
Usp28	Ppfia4	Scyl2	Suco
Pomgnt2	Gyg	Smg8	Stx8
Nedd9	Ints6	Relt	Cul2
Pex12	Bloc1s5	0610009B22Rik	Cdca7l
Aifm2	Tceanc2	Grb2	Sptbn1
P2rx3	Secisbp2l	Plekhhg3	Mogs
Trp53i13	Serpinf1	Arid5a	Fbl
Cyb5rl	Pop1	Spag5	Map2k3
Lima1	Golim4	Amz2	2610206C17Rik
Snrk	PdCD11	Nt5dc1	Ube2g2
Sgk1	Morc2a	Oxld1	Numa1
Snupn	Exosc4	Fkrp	Prkd3
Hook2	Trappc8	Tsr1	Ptcd3
Cdk5rap1	Qpctl	Mtf1	Ebp
Cep89	Cenpo	Rbm45	Setd2
Alkbh4	Nphp1	Erich1	Guca1a
Osbp17	Rnf123	Rhebl1	Hist1h1c
Hcfc2	Bicd2	Tmtc3	Nr1h2
Fut4	Zfp692	1700109H08Rik	Mdm2
Rsad1	Phf7	Pqlc1	Tap1
Aldh7a1	Dguok	Dhx38	Fam192a
Pim3	Zzef1	Ndst1	Celf1
Slc2a8	Mgat4a	Ipo4	Kit
Unc45a	Sft2d2	Irak1bp1	Haus4
Ccdc77	Hps5	Kmt5c	Tommm40l
Myadm	Lrx2	Ahi1	Ltbr
Fam160a2	Tti1	Fdxacb1	Cluh
Lbp	Trappc3	Dhdh	Hnrnp2
S1pr3	Commd5	Csgalnact2	Wdr82
Tmem268	Clasrp	Slx1b	Arfgap2
Baiap2	Chchd6	Twsg1	Usp22
Hyal2	Fam195a	Gm19680	4921524J17Rik
Sh3bp5l	Klf2	Dlg1	Gm15519
E130307A14Rik	Lztr1	Prepl	Os9
Pars2	Stat4	Zfp369	Mettl1

4933404O12Rik	Atp5s	Primpol	Hk1
B3galt6	Arfgap3	Sec24b	4930453N24Rik
Wbscr27	Ash1l	Tbc1d22b	Nrgn
Wdr91	Mttr12	Ube2d-ps	Gm26917
Txnrd3	Gzf1	Vezt	Fads1
Cog3	Mul1	Mospd2	Nkiras2
Coq8b	Tacstd2	Dus4l	Sigirr
Ndor1	Mto1	Gm13328	Cpsf7
Nuak2	Hgh1	Cluap1	Setd5
Appl2	Pdlim7	Arl10	Notch2
Gem	Rb1cc1	Tpcn1	Cdc34
Gba2	Zfp157	Sos2	Acot2
Slc25a29	Polr3d	Scrib	Nosip
Tmem237	Poc1b	Usp36	Dapp1
Vps8	Nagk	Cacfd1	Ankrd11
Taf8	Ppp2r5e	Sik2	Gtf2i
Terf2ip	Pcnx	Abl2	Tbl3
Slc35e1	Selenoi	Dse	Cdc20
Arrdc2	Poli	Hps3	Dusp6
Gbp7	Gm20342	N4bp2l1	Epha7
Zfp775	Rffl	Rag1	Dnase2a
Tmem185a	Fgd4	Csf2rb	Zmpste24
Recql4	Rfx7	Fam118b	Pik3r1
Git1	Nsun4	Wwc2	Mrpl58
Irf2bp1	Hdac5	Dcaf4	Fam172a
Tepsin	Unc13d	Rab5b	Crtap
Cbx2	Rpusd4	1110038F14Rik	Dok3
Aff1	Rnpepl1	Dhrs11	Gm10051
Zfp407	Entpd6	Gm12454	Itgal
Plscr4	Ipo8	Gfpt1	Cdk11b
Hace1	Gpatch1	Pspc1	Ap3s1-ps2
Dnajc14	Rnf145	B4galt3	Pxn
Recql5	Panx1	Prelid2	Cdc27
Syne2	Cep57l1	Gadd45a	Rrp9
Tmtc4	Cdc25c	Cbfa2t3	2410002F23Rik
Arhgap6	Lactb	Mesdc1	Acin1
Tbc1d10a	Supt7l	Fez2	Gbbp1l1
Mmp12	Kctd10	Mterf3	Fam46a
Rab44	Rbm28	Rbm6-ps1	Eif2d
Dntt	Rraga	Ptpn4	Rcn2
Plod2	Plod1	Ccdc88c	Plscr1
Angpt1	Akap9	Rbbp6	Csnk2a1
Emid1	Yipf2	Nfkbi1	Anxa1
Ssfa2	Map3k4	Focad	Adprh
Sema3a	lws1	Tmem156	Tctex1d2
Slc11a1	Mcm9	Sfxn2	Bckdha
Chl1	Stat5a	Psd3	Cnot9
Gaa	Tmc6	Dennd1b	Mmadhc
Sapcd2	Pik3ap1	Mgme1	Ppp1r8
Muc13	Gramd3	Shprh	Ubr4
Por	Pus7l	Upf1	Jagn1
Ppm1f	Epb41l2	Fam76a	Gm8010
Mllt3	Traf3ip3	Tex264	Gm5530
Idh1	Coq7	Tnks	Yeats4
Ddx4	Aldh4a1	Mapk3	Suv39h1
Galnt14	Nrp1	Gin1	Lyz2
Pde2a	Faap20	Dusp19	Srprb
Ccnf	Pi15	Prr11	Btk
Emilin1	Itgb3	Nubp1	Itpr1
Gys1	Dnajc13	Fra10ac1	Acap1
Stxbp2	Rap2c	Camk2d	Selenom
Pfkf	Gca	Gcc2	Tmed7
Rgs18	Nfat5	Cyb561a3	Gm38078
Papss2	Golph3l	Afg3l2	Prr14
Preb	Dvl2	Pcyt1a	Tmem39a
Bin2	Gpn2	Endog	Impdh1
Lpcat2	Cpped1	Thap4	Gm7389
Stk11	Wrnip1	Vps13b	Anxa3
Reep4	Rgs1	Xndc1	Dlst
Zfp703	Sumf2	Osblp2	Pdia4
Aebp1	Ikbip	Cenpl	Nudt3
Erlin2	Sphk2	Tal1	Apobec3
Flnb	Mccc2	Zfp825	Gm5499

Lmo4	Mctp1	Dusp12	Mia2
Ikbkap	Pcsk4	Vamp5	Rbm5
Trabd	Ocr1	Praf2	Ahsa2
Zfr	Ppp1r14c	Gab2	Pdxdc1
Gpr12	Pex16	Gigyf1	Zdhhc20
Smg5	Ttk	Tmem259	Cd72
Tmed1	Pex1	Sun1	Stom
Nat10	Hmbox1	Thg1l	Usp9x
Ankrd27	Hmg20b	Gm18284	Smc2
Prkar2b	Ncoa6	Tfb1m	Ccar1
Nfe2	Tmem218	Phf8	Ift20
Acot1	Cipc	Aida	Atp6ap1
Anapc7	Ankrd28	Dedd2	Lpcat3
Vps26b	Cox18	Bud13	Myc
Armc5	Zpr1	Ccdc186	Leng8
Mfge8	Cpne2	Fam49a	Hmgcs1
Wars	A230050P20Rik	Slc22a4	Ifrd2
Ctla2a	Abhd6	Purb	Mars
Ednra	Pecr	5730480H06Rik	Tpp2
Skiv2l	Manbal	Sirpa	Ube2w
Polrmt	Yeats2	Bahcc1	Dpp3
Miip	Tpgs1	Furin	Pgd
Sart3	Bsn	Ermard	Tm9sf4
Dhodh	Nprl2	Lamc1	Gm2a
Gstz1	Hmces	Gm6493	Pigu
Atp13a1	Kmt5b	Brwd1	Elk3
Hmgcl1	Med26	Wdr62	Alkbh5
Pcyox1	Vcpip1	Sfmbt1	Herpud1
Col4a6	Zfp282	Igsf6	Timm17a
Gorasp1	Pstk	Hist1h1d	Tln1
Ptprm	Gab1	Arhgap10	Mir5099
Hilpda	Wdyhvf1	Srf	Tacc3
Chid1	Ccdc18	Plcg1	Acly
Dlg2	Nbas	Ighv1-23	Nipbl
4930427A07Rik	Sugp2	Cdk5rap2	Ewsr1
Man2c1	Mrpl45	Inpp5f	Arhgap18
Cant1	Fam188a	Scly	Pwp1
Orai3	Usp42	Nudt13	Rnf181
Wwp2	St7	Actr6	Gnpat
Pitpnm1	Aldh6a1	Trak2	Dcaf7
Stat6	Grpel2	Pafah1b3	Xpc
Clip1	Sh3glb2	Gse1	Tmem183a
Narf	Ccdc191	Ick	Gm7556
Fut7	Tjap1	Ints8	Stk4
Pml	Mical1	Sufu	Gm7676
Inpp5b	Uros	Csnk2a2	Map1lc3b
Fat4	Tirap	Gapvd1	Vasp
Tgfb1	Sh3d19	Rpia	Dld
Dmtf1	Snap29	Kcnj2	Tmx2
Slc9a9	Map2k7	Ncor2	Cd34
Ttll12	Parp16	Rnf216	Tmem242
Ggta1	Csnk1g3	Gm5874	Tbcb
Aldh3a2	Bcor	Slc25a12	Gm9923
Eif2b2	Polr3c	Ppp1r9b	2810403A07Rik
Fastk	Birc2	Adgrl4	Eprs
Sipa1l1	Klhl7	Ubqln1	Zfp622
Hoxa10	Thap7	Slc35e2	Glud1
Gch1	Ptch1	Gm12166	Fbxo9
Slc39a11	Agps	Map2k4	Eif3d
Rdh11	Tmem199	Fbxw2	Arl6ip4
Safb	AU040320	Strn	Cdca8
Col4a5	Zbtb41	Fam26f	Dcun1d5
Clpx	Phyh	Ap1g2	Huwe1
Fbxo18	Arap1	Ranbp10	Gm12716
Ciao1	Tmco6	Plcb4	Cd33
Slc17a9	Nfe2l1	Zfp81	Nedd4
Ubttd1	Sbf1	Gm7512	Ddx46
Ldlrap1	Zfp646	Dpy19l1	Actr1a
Vps39	Trem3	Zbtb45	Bcat2
Cyth1	Arsa	Depdc1b	R3hdm1
Jmjd6	Gnaq	Dctn1	Ncstn
Bag5	Serinc5	Gm9517	Rpl28
Bet1	Prr3	Yod1	Arf5

Glt8d1	Rmnd5a	Galc	Rp9
Sipa1	Gata3	Ptafr	Pdcd6ip
Dhx30	Xxylt1	Gm20696	Tfrc
Mettl2	Gna15	Fcgr3	Gm8806
B230219D22Rik	Ptger2	Arl8a	Rpl7a-ps3
Neu1	Map2k6	Plk-ps1	Raver1
Xbp1	Fbxo28	Chd3	Fip1l1
Tbc1d17	Ralbp1	Pcnx3	Paip2b
Akr7a5	Nusap1	Htt	Mrps12
Rprd1b	Atg2b	Nkg7	Pnn
Fam63a	Mfng	Polr1a	Trf
Tst	Lgals3bp	N6amt1	Nisch
Ebf1	Mdm1	Cyb5r1	Ppig
2510039O18Rik	Snip1	Gm21738	Ep400
Gla	Pnpo	Safb2	Fubp1
Opa3	Amz1	Necap2	Ctsg
Dgcr2	Fam96b	Plxnd1	Dtnbp1
Prodh	Tmem68	Glul	4930519L02Rik
Prpf38b	Plpp2	Pcdhgc3	Gm6560
Atad3a	Slc9a1	Fam126a	Ubal2
Akr1b10	Dmap1	Stxbp5	Hoxa9
Keap1	Ccdc61	Lsm10	Cd63
Atf7ip	Ctdsp1	Tarsl2	Aldoart2
Ints5	Pelp1	Rabl3	Eno1b
Eml3	Fam98a	Akirin2	Thrap3
Ccdc71	Ing2	2310075C17Rik	Man2b1
Kif2c	Ifi204	Gm3470	Hk3
Rbpms2	Tada2a	Smad5	H2-K1
Gne	Mettl5	Ring1	Pdap1
Btbd10	Dffb	Tob2	Pold2
Poldip3	Msrb2	Gtpbp1	Ctsd
Letm1	Prpf3	Cox11	Brd3
Mrps31	Erg	Hist1h1a	Prcc2c
Meis1	Asb3	Fchsd2	Gm10819
Rere	Arhgef3	Kif18a	Hdlbp
Rad9a	Cwc22	Gemin8	Calr
Myo1c	Extl3	Eps15	Gm5814
Cpt1a	Tiam1	Pced1a	Srrm2
Telo2	Rassf1	Zfp277	Rrbp1
AI467606	Hinfp	Dhx33	Gm9826
Hist1h2bc	Gga3	Naa40	Ccdc124
Pde4a	Polr3b	Tm7sf2	Srp72
Rwdd4a	Rnf214	Prkaca	Rnh1
Pvr	Klhl12	Ugt1a7c	Sf3b2
Kansl3	Ipp	Rexo4	Ing4
Nudt9	Rnf166	Kat5	Eya1
Ampd2	Naa25	Gpr89	Nipsnap3b
Tmem40	Dhcr24	Actr8	Mff
Ccnl2	Mettl7a1	Dolpp1	Adgrg1
Leo1	Fadd	Lrrc24	Pkm
Agpat4	Ggact	Rapgef2	Iqgap1
Afap1	Stau2	H2-Q5	Sucla2
Mettl16	Tgfb1	Dus3l	Smarca4
Gm17018	Rpap2	Rnf44	Ero1l
Gcdh	Tespa1	Asph	Gm42418
Wdr73	Xrcc1	Hdgfrp2	Prdx5
Gpr65	Bet1l	Tmem184b	Gm5276
Naglu	Cutc	Igkv4-90	Nfu1
Gga2	Fnbp1	Fam222b	Dctn3
Mavs	Rdh13	Otud5	Lyl1
Usp21	Mfsd12	Otulin	Sdf2l1
Hmg20a	Fbf1	Sptan1	Dnmt1
Cpt2	Pus10	9330159M07Rik	Gm5424
Eaf1	Cep120	Mid1ip1	Hist1h1e
Mvd	Mpi	Tmem203	Eno1
Ablim1	Nemp1	Gm5578	Mrfap1
Rbpms	Slain2	Midn	Ddx1
Gjb3	Tspan5	Zfp36l1	Gm13612
Kctd5	Slc35a2	Jmjd8	Slc39a7
Mcat	Acox1	Hipk2	Cd63-ps
Mars2	Ubp1	Sec24a	Sec61a1
Wdr3	R3hcc1l	Crtc3	Ctsc
Arhgap11a	4930523C07Rik	Adrm1	Hspa5

Hdac10	Irf3	Fam3c	Rbmxl1
Srbd1	Ttc17	Ywhag	Foxp1
Fam175b	Add3	Sugp1	Stoml2
Cep250	Rnf31	Zdhhc21	Ap3s1-ps1
Lig3	Bmx	Prrc2b	Tram1
Dhx16	Mbd1	Mettl4	Uba1
Shkbp1	Rbm6	Gm20604	Gm4735
Ube2c	Al597479	Abi3	Plscr3
Sec22a	Slc19a2	Tbk1	Ndufs2
Chd1l	Car9	Mtfr2	Dhx9
Wls	Stxbp4	Pan2	Gm9575
Tmem161a	Tm2d1	SmarCD1	Ccl9
Ccdc137	Qsox1	Itpk1	Gm4784
Tbc1d14	Bcr	Prcc	Ube2i
Ngrn	Ubash3b	Sla	Gm11964
Txnrd2	Mov10	Stk11ip	Eif4a2
Cry1	Adprm	Gm12158	Edf1
Card9	Trim8	Csf2ra	Rab11b
Atr	2700097O09Rik	Bpnt1	Myb
Sel1l	Mtmr14	Npepps	Gm7180
Msmo1	Vgll4	Dmxl1	Anp32b-ps1
Sec23a	Tmem19	Kif4	Ccnd3-ps
Slc25a24	Tnpo2	Trim14	Phb
Triobp	Rhoq	Pam	Rab11b-ps2
Hyou1	Gm9144	Ano6	Arl1
Gbe1	Ckap4	Zfp800	BC031181
Btd	Ppp1r10	Plk1	Drg1
9630013D21Rik	Eral1	Gnpda2	1110008F13Rik
Dnase1l1	Stxbp3	Spry1	Lsm6
Cd200r1	Kdm5b	Casc3	Prtn3
2610301B20Rik	Ctdsp2	Gm5303	Rnaseh2c
Gtf2h2	Zyg11b	Msl1	Calr-ps
Fance	Dhx40	Setd7	Rbm25
Pgghg	Smcr8	Tcof1	Malat1
Bscl2	Orc1	Mrps30	Lars2
Spast	Traf2	Abhd2	Hmgb3
Cog4	Tsc1	Krt10	Sdhc
Mvk	Khynyn	Eif4g1	Elavl1
Agpat1	Ncoa2	Gm28417	Vim
Cstf1	Phrf1	Foxm1	Hsp90b1
Tvp23b	Rnf41	Rab28	Lman2
Ccdc86	Gpatch2l	Slc19a1	Pfdn6
Wdr24	Aspm	Sft2d1	Chchd10
Jak3	Rwdd2b	Ube2h	Pebp1
Tmem184c	Ankrd26	Rin3	Tmem59
Ubl7	Pemt	Tssc1	Gm4737
Creb1	0610009O20Rik	Gm18588	Psmc1
Plekho2	Vmp1	Tmbim1	Ap2m1
Lgals8	Wash1	Pcgf6	Gm12611
Dhx35	Gatb	Sars2	Psmc7
Atp6v0a2	Tmco4	Tmem5	Cuedc2
Arhgap27	Lclat1	Aldh16a1	Surf4
Zfp180	Ppp4r1	Lrpap1	Gm13509
Mipep	Ccnb2	Ppt2	Aldoa
Slc35a1	Pla2g6	Gm4258	Anp32b
Cd27	Mrs2	Ripk1	CD164
Wdr6	Rabggta	Mbip	Csde1
Akt1s1	Nfyc	Gm13880	Npm3-ps1
Cog1	Cstf2t	Gm10801	Anp32e
Nrf1	E2f6	Ncoa3	Gm6517
Banp	Slc28a2	Rasa3	Pdia6
Wrap73	Ddx54	Igkv12-89	CD47
Ppox	Mknk2	Rangap1	Psat1
Fem1b	Ipmk	H2-M3	Akr1b3
Dnaja3	Mettl13	Elmsan1	Cox7c
Taok1	Snx15	Rcbtb2	Tmbim6
Diaph1	Usb1	Ndr3	Eif4h
Srd5a3	Zmym5	Faf2	Gm9824
Scamp3	Mvp	Gga1	Aldoart1
Kcnab2	Ggh	Fntb	Selenok
Pggt1b	Ppp1r12c	Arhgef12	Nono
Dnmt3b	lqce	Ppp2r5a	Pgk1
Rexo1	Fuz	Zmynd11	Phgdh

Fam207a	Cby1	1810044D09Rik	Cct2
Dcaf17	Rnpc3	Pmm2	Rsu1
Arntl	Lpcat1	Supt20	Manf
Rag2	Ip6k1	Cxxc5	Pgam1-ps2
Ice2	Nudt22	Ppwd1	Tkt
Pum1	Kctd1	Gm23130	Itm2b
Agtrap	2610020H08Rik	Sfswap	Gm7901
Smyd3	Nus1	Scap	Rpn2
Klc4	Scmh1	6330562C20Rik	Etfb
Wdr83	Zfp146	Saal1	Arpc1b
Strip1	Dpy19l3	1700003F12Rik	Rnaset2b
CD84	Rapgef6	Sumf1	Ubc
Armc8	Cebpg	Fzr1	Rbm8a
Decr1	Rnmtl1	Spsb3	H2-D1
Ado	Lman2l	Slc25a1	Serpinb1a
Rpap1	Kif14	Pisd-ps1	Prdx6b
Gm16194	Trdmt1	Ino80dos	Rbm39
Slc25a19	Il3ra	Ccdc69	Gm5637
Tmx4	Gpank1	Mttr6	Glrx3
Tusc3	Pgam5	Klf6	Gm12669
Ngly1	Ttc39c	Heatr6	Gm12020
Chek1	Exo5	Bod1l	Atp5a1
Wbscr16	Dbt	Gm12397	Pgam1
Zfp266	Tapbp1	Ehbp1l1	Ucp2
Dis3l	S1pr4	Hint2	Cct6a
Tbc1d19	Vars2	Cmtr1	Tomm20
Rgs14	Ddx31	Oxr1	Gm6368
Selenbp1	Trp53bp1	Wdfy2	Srgn
Pgm3	Cmas	Gm9200	Hsp90ab1
Aim2	Fbxo6	Snord100	Clic1
Sec14l1	Ighmbp2	Pycr2	Park7
Ska3	Vegfb	Mark2	Capzb
Urb2	Tns3	Gm7856	Ldha
Vipas39	Vkorc1l1	Arid5b	Tdpx-ps1
Ddx11	Ccdc94	Net1	Selenoh
Pqbp1	Kmt2a	Gm7334	Serbp1
Katnb1	Kctd13	Gm3436	Vdac2
Tusc2	Mapk8ip3	Myh9	
Golga4	Ddx55	Cdkn2c	

1340 genes downregulated in EV-transduced cells

Gjb3	Pdss2	Chchd4	Fubp1
Cd99l2	Gm12158	Pla2g4a	Ampd2
Slc25a29	Gm21807	Ift57	Utp11l
Thsd1	8430408G22Rik	Fer	Gfm1
Ptgir	Fndc3b	R3hcc1	Ptprcap
Ppic	Gm4349	Gm24452	Gm11847
Zfp775	Cd302	Zfp101	Gm14109
Gm807	Jpx	H2-Q7	Nme1
Gpc3	Dab1	Zfp512b	Ndc1
Adgrl4	Adat1	Gm5385	Gm5069
Slc45a3	Gm37666	Snord22	Mrps28
Gfra2	Zfp566	Itga6	Znhit3
Igll1	Mt2	Snx27	Trim28
Dntt	Galc	Tspan13	Ifrd2
Gfra1	Vpreb1	Gm5124	Ripk3
Angpt1	Vangl2	Aldh18a1	Cdk7
Emid1	Mrgpre	Mfsd13a	Ndufaf2
Cand2	Dennd5b	Bzw2	Cad
Chl1	1700003F12Rik	Phgdh	Endod1
Slc43a1	Zdhhc24	Zak	Chchd5
Cul7	Gdf11	Acaca	Gm6640
Hmgcll1	Slc18a1	Unkl	Nme6
Ptk7	Kcnq5	Srgn	Wdr77
Hgf	Pla2g6	Bambi	Pus10
Gpr12	Tmem40	Ttc37	Gm11914
4930519L02Rik	Il6	3110082I17Rik	Gm7781
Ptpm	Zfp507	Zfand4	Trappc13
Ablim1	Prkca	Mif	Pgam1-ps2
Rbpms2	Tnfsf13os	Fancd2	Rps2-ps10
Col4a6	Prune2	Gm16379	Gm12403

Rag2	Xpnpep3	NudCD1	Gar1
Aebp1	Qtrtd1	Guf1	Oaz2-ps
Dlg2	Zfp934	Tma16	Gcsh
Hoxa10	G2e3	Gm13998	Hadh
Ica1	Dnmt3b	Mcph1	Mrpl50
Fat4	Brinp3	Spint2	Gm7666
Muc13	D130058E05Rik	Zbtb38	Pgk1
Sh3d19	Clstn1	Kctd1	Ybx3
Ebf1	Fam35a	Orc2	Gm16074
Pear1	Ppfibp1	Gm10169	Ruvbl1
Col4a5	Ttc39c	Gpatch4	Aasdhppt
Gimap6	Prss57	Zfp672	Snhg4
Rcn1	Tst	Wdr6	Gm9143
Ddx4	4732463B04Rik	Bphl	Abhd11
Gata3	Simc1	Gm4353	Rps6
Csgalnact1	Gm8113	Gm5455	Slc7a6
Sema3a	Fancb	Ppp1r14b	Gm16433
Car2	Unc13a	Nudt7	Selenom
Hlf	Mmp13	Gm14328	Bcap29
Galnt14	Ppp1r13b	Grhpr	Ubxn8
Tacstd2	Gm9847	Gm5946	Comtd1
Mcpt8	Uevld	SCD1	Pi4k2b
Limch1	Camsap1	Stat4	Sssca1
Aldoc	Ube2cbp	Rpp14	D16Ert472e
Plod2	Katnal1	Qsox1	Mrpl38
Erg	Txnrd3	Ints3	Gm13700
Ms4a3	Col23a1	E130308A19Rik	Pom121
Ctla2a	Gm30074	Strbp	Chordc1
Psd3	9930104L06Rik	Kti12	Nudt5
Nefh	Taf1a	Gm43297	Ntm1
Ubash3a	Cep41	Dnajc12	Ergic1
Cd27	Mnd1-ps	Suv39h2	Taf5l
Ppp1r14c	Pomk	Ddx1	Eef1g
Vamp5	Klhl12	Samsn1	Mrps31
Tnfrsf26	Pde8a	Mgat5	Por
Dnajc6	2610008E11Rik	Wdr55	Blm
Car3	C230034O21Rik	Cd24a	Pum3
Tmem108	Msantd3	Gclm	Anks1
Gab1	Nav2	Bmi1	Gm8522
Arhgap6	Selenon	3000002C10Rik	Gm15484
Plscr4	Mnd1	Gm7332	Gm6501
Pcdh7	Spry2	Gm1818	Rrs1
Slc28a2	Kcnq3	BC017158	Atg12
Armcx1	Tspan32	Mns1	Rpl36
St6galnac3	Zfp40	Plppr3	Ubfd1
Atp11a	Hyal2	Ftsj1	Gm26917
Ptgds	Zfp748	Fam92a	Smyd2
Rag1	Pdpr	Tspan2	Top3b
Ltbp3	Kctd4	Ints6	Fbxo9
F2rl3	Trem3	Plpp5	Gm11896
Afap1	Fam114a1	Pus7	Gstp-ps
Fam160a2	Dach1	Galk1	Paip2
Pecr	Gm16104	Akap1	Gm4735
Dync2li1	Pus7l	Srm	Clpp
Cbx2	Ankrd13b	Spout1	Mcm2
Tnik	Sapcd2	Sergef	Fkbp3
Rhoj	Hmgb3	Gemin4	Stam
Wbscr27	Mlh3	BC055324	Mvb12b
Ednra	Pced1b	Gm10020	Gm17837
Acot3	Layn	Nipsnap1	Gm4366
Rgcc	Kremen1	Selenbp1	Ddx56
Mab21l1	Ctnnal1	Gm43096	Stk26
Gm15261	Thy1	Yod1	Cluh
C030034L19Rik	2610306M01Rik	Abcb8	D5Ert605e
Itga9	Ahdcd1	1110008L16Rik	Cenph
Oxnad1	Zhx2	Eya1	Pabpn1
Armcx2	Gca	Adgrg3	Mir5099
B230118H07Rik	Smim24	Itgb3bp	H2-Q6
Kit	Chchd10	Gm6652	Gaa
Zfp239	Zfp932	Bcl7a	Eif1ax
Lbp	Cep97	Gtf2f2	Lman1
Gstt2	Stxbp5	Kansl1l	Ipo11
BiCD1	Yae1d1	Tespa1	ldh2

Bmx	Gm6104	Pbx4	Psme3
Adgrg1	Il31ra	Gm5847	Mthfd1
Gm10384	Prelid2	Gm5864	Mesdc2
Traf4	Larp1b	Smpd4	Borcs7
Fgf10	6330562C20Rik	Al987944	Gm13719
Ocr1	Ube2o	Pam16	Emilin1
Map9	1190007I07Rik	Snord55	Gstp1
Nrgn	Exo5	Gm23246	Gm7556
Pglyrp1	Hist1h1a	Polr1b	Mycbp
Mc5r	Spice1	Dirc2	Gm17709
Hmga2	Hyls1	Ccdc167	Ninj1
Slc22a4	Cmss1	Gm15659	Cdk4
Bhlhe41	Mtx3	Pitrm1	Rfc4
Dpy19l3	Tnnt1	Fam136a	Cbx5
Lima1	Akap7	Rrp1b	Hmgcr
Gimap9	Slc35d3	1110004E09Rik	Gm8173
Tal1	Osbpl7	Gm17494	Tia1
Rpusd2	Etfbkmt	Grwd1	Srek1ip1
Bcat1	Ccdc181	Fam216a	Ftsj3
Gm3470	Gm9256	Lyar	Icam2
Hoxa9	Gas2	Gm14769	Gm10819
Plcb4	Bhlhb9	Sord	Eno1
Rai14	Sirt5	Rint1	Asf1a
Dab2ip	Tfrc	Kcnq1ot1	Dhx30
Phlda3	Slc37a1	Enkd1	Cit
Epha7	Gm37818	Gm14450	Pebp1
Abhd6	Capn3	Hist1h2bj	Gm13368
Igkv4-90	Gm16341	Nup37	Gm9824
Col19a1	Gm37422	Gm13502	Bola1
Cbx6	Prkar2b	Reps1	Gm12115
Ptger2	Gemin5	Fam162a	Trap1
4930555A03Rik	Impdh1	Trp53bp1	Hddc2
Efna5	B230369F24Rik	Pdlim1	Rpl27
Spry4	Gm37510	Cdkn2aipnl	Nomo1
Gimap1	Rpusd3	Gm17066	Prep
Ighv1-23	Gfi1b	Mettl1	Rpl31
Ccdc15	Aak1	Abcb6	Tpi-rs11
Plxna3	Dok2	Gm5703	4921524J17Rik
Mmp11	Abhd17c	Nolc1	Rps12
Pi15	Ippk	Shhg15	Klhdc2
Mettl15	Gtf3c4	Spata24	Pold2
1700030K09Rik	Lins1	G6pc3	Gm6447
Mzb1	Angptl4	Acot2	Al314180
Gcnt4	Urb2	Utp20	Tmem254c
Igfbp7	Rrp12	Gm4737	Tomm5
Dnajc27	Dctd	Cdk6	Gm5593
Ahi1	Zfp219	B3galnt2	Ktn1
Lsmem1	Mettl4	Las1l	Gnl3
Aasdh	Sh3rf1	Wdr12	Aimp2
2810002D19Rik	Rbak	Cerkl	Gm5611
Gsta4	Zfp979	Dnph1	Gart
Htra3	Gm37124	Lmo4	Gm13552
Spns2	Dtx4	Jmjd8	Tfap4
Tspan6	Exoc8	Rai1	Nsun2
Zfp783	Slc35b4	Nt5c3b	Nop56
Gata2	Gse1	Nob1	Tpi1
Mpo	Utp14b	Gm13337	Haus1
Kcnj2	Tceanc	Rasgrp2	Clec4e
Maged2	Etv4	Exosc2	Oaz2
Mei4	Tmem67	Trub2	Tufm
Jmjd4	Micall2	Flnb	Mrto4
Kcnip3	Wdr5b	2900026A02Rik	mt-Nd2
Senp8	Lrrc20	Nme4	Ptpn7
Amer1	L2hgdh	Ahcy	Drap1
9630013D21Rik	Gm29397	Wdr75	Nifk
Gda	Bag2	Eef1e1	Mrpl15
Stxbp4	Kif17	Dnaja3	Tyms
Tnk2	Mroh2a	Mdn1	Gm37201
Socs5	Crnde	Cdkn2c	Gadd45gip1
Sort1	Sox4	Gnpnat1	Rnf220
Gm26580	Poli	Sptbn1	Tmem70
Cngb1	2610301B20Rik	Xpo7	Gm7244
Xk	Focad	Nup133	Trnt1

Arpp21	Rbpms	Pcp4l1	Ptcd3
Gm38391	Lamc1	Rmnd5a	Adsl
Dennd6b	Polr3g	Pitpnc1	Gm4705
Rtn4r	Ankrd26	Gm7512	Polr2f
Map7d2	Ap4e1	Smyd5	Gsr
Olfml2b	Ino80dos	Gm4879	Cisd3
Pde2a	Arap2	Gm20156	Clec4d
Cited1	Usp31	Sumf2	Ttc3
D630045J12Rik	Ypel1	Ifi27	Ppan
4930509E16Rik	Dzip3	Gm9826	Rpl12
Nck2	Rdh13	Dtnbp1	Gm9755
Tha1	Pofut1	Fasn	Tmem97
2310075C17Rik	Prodh	Ccl9	Ddx18
Mmp14	Zfp428	Nt5dc2	Gm21887
Tarbp1	Zscan22	Hspd1-ps3	Stk16
Abcd2	Spata7	Msi2	Gm13937
Ctxn1	Lyrn9	Pfkl	mt-Te
Camkk1	Ppm1f	Fam65a	Psm5
Slc25a43	Amot	Abhd2	Gm7289
Rapgef3	Cnn3	PdCD4	Cnpy4
C92006O11Rik	Anxa9	Nfe2	Rsl1d1
Gm20696	Msr2	Mthfd1l	Syncrip
Rnf125	Gm5530	Pabpc4	Gspt1
1700012B09Rik	Rptor	Gm23130	Ssbp1
Mgmt	Golim4	Nipsnap3b	Gm8520
Myo19	Dnajb4	Zbed4	Arid4b
Fam220a	Gm16897	Tfb2m	Gm5297
Gem	Slc17a9	Lyrn2	Gm15654
Taco1	Fancf	1810032O08Rik	Cnpy2
Car8	Calcr1	Gm5251	Gm7389
Armxc4	Ero1l	3110040N11Rik	Syce2
Slc38a5	Myl4	Mtap	Dnajc2
Zfp874a	Cbr1	Susd1	Atp5g1
Hsd17b14	Brwd3	Sigirr	Rps8
Slc9a3r2	Hist1h3d	Hspd1	Gm27219
Nkg7	Kdm5b	Hibch	Eif3j1
Spag4	Mphosph9	Ppif	Nop2
Cdc14b	Polr3d	Gm16465	Paip1
Pcbd1	Meis1	Gm9260	Dtymk
Arv1	Zfp703	Gm6166	Gm12583
Engase	Gm17936	Dkc1	Sfxn1
Dusp18	Rttm	Pop1	Noc2l
Nrxn1	lqsec1	Pcyox1l	Hdgf
Srr	Cep57l1	HaCD1	Golgb1
Gm15658	Ldlrad3	2610318N02Rik	Gm13776
Zxdc	Cep89	Snora68	Cbx3
Bhlha15	Gprasp1	Timm9	Rps13-ps4
Cela1	Snapp4	Ruvbl2	Rsb1l
Amacr	Ttll5	Cdca7l	Hspbbp1
Fkbp11	D3Ert751e	Sos2	Cct3
Gm15581	Bsn	Bora	Psmg1
Sipa1l1	Dgat2	Cycs	Cand1
Ttll1	Wwc2	Prps1	Gm5687
Wdr60	Cmtr2	Gm17230	Nop10
Ccdc66	Plscr1	Rpl21	Gm19031
Dok4	Ptch1	2610002M06Rik	Ndufb2
Dusp4	Hoxa6	Ndufa4	Hmgn5
Afap1l1	CD81	Mif-ps3	Ipo5
Igkv12-89	Elk3	Trip13	Fto
B9d1	Tsen15	Stap1	Zbed3
Nlr1x	Ppfia4	Gm4258	Msh6
Fkbp1	Atat1	Mt1	Rcn2
Serpinb1a	Shmt1	Lmo2	Pfas
Thap2	Hoxa5	Mkrn2	C1qbp
Zfp503	Gm6505	Gm6960	Gm42814
Zfp184	1810014B01Rik	Crtap	Gm11993
Rasd1	Ovca2	Phb	Gm8459
4933404O12Rik	Ydjc	Sh2d5	Pgam1
Zfp329	Psat1	Hk3	Gm13498
Egln3	Mmd	Hoxa7	Gm15770
Ttll9	Zfp799	Ssfa2	Ift27
Gm11998	Mccc2	Ncl	Eno1b
Gm43489	Klf16	Nudcd2	Mcm6

Slc29a2	Snap47	2410016O06Rik	Gm5525
Hemk1	Ldlrad4	Rfx3	Eif3b
Tnfrsf22	Ada	Ctps	Akap13
Zfp160	Cry2	Gm11451	Rnaseh2c
Spa17	Repin1	Zcchc11	Mrps18b
Ascl2	Acyp1	Mtf2	Tnpo1
Pif1	Parp16	Msto1	Polr3k
Fam188b	Gm14057	Gm5551	Npm3
Gm37060	Dtd1	Hcst	Wdr74
Fktn	Ap3s1-ps2	Mrpl44	Mcf2
Raet1d	1190002N15Rik	Gm5855	Mdh2
Gpam	Slc19a1	Lamp3	Idi1
CtsG	Arhgap18	Ppp1cb	Pa2g4
Rsph9	Aldh6a1	Dlat	Gm11516
Lekr1	Cd34	Fchs2	Chaf1b
2810403D21Rik	Gm5874	Nedd4	Got2
Itih5	Hist1h3f	1110038B12Rik	B3gnt2
9230114K14Rik	Ccdc40	Nutf2	Med29
Armcx6	Rnf219	Ska2l-ps	Sephs2
Sntb2	Tmem69	Bace1	Fmc1
Raet1e	Fam212a	Hsd17b10	Ilf2
Nrg1	Cd320	Snhg5	Nhp2l1
Per3	Gm17149	Tmem107	Mcee
Zfp113	Trp53rkb	Gm5837	Cct6a
Mex3a	Cenpv	Ppid	Flt3
Tom1l1	Nol8	Gm12020	Calu
Ttc26	Slc25a15	Asph	Gm42418
Gm1976	Ercc6	2810004N23Rik	Ogt
Zfpm1	Pde4d	Umps	Gm9531
Tesc	Hgh1	Nop58	Paics
Rbp1	Cdca7	Gm14630	Kpnb1
Gmpr	Wdr34	Fkbp4	Wdr36
Rab44	Il12a	Hells	Hspa9-ps1
Col11a2	1110051M20Rik	Dusp12	Pcyt2
Acot1	Gm9797	Lsm3	Fxn
Ppargc1b	Mcm3ap	Hist1h2ac	Mlec
Zc3hav1l	Hilpda	Pdrg1	Prdx6
Asap2	Smad3	Psmg2	Gm14857
Ccdc125	Zfp280c	Gm14681	mt-Tt
SpoCD1	Nup43	Fam133b	Dars
Irx2	Ipp	Slc16a1	Brix1
Jade2	Dhx33	Dnaja10	Snhg6
Chsy1	Tsc22d1	Ak2	1810022K09Rik
Rhoq	Plscr3	Gm17251	Yaf2
Epha4	Zfp369	Dph5	Tcp1-ps1
Kcnh7	Rpgrip1	Haus3	Prdx3
Dus4l	Fabp5	Gm7933	Ube3a
Zcwpw1	Fam78a	Rpl36a	Rrn3
Vkorc1l1	Ap3s1	Idh3a	Nudt19
Tctn3	Sdhaf3	Rasa1	Prmt5
Mgarp	Cirh1a	Pgm2	Hsp90ab1
Fbxo25	Timm8a1	Ppat	Twist1
4930520O04Rik	Hspa13	Etfb	Mrpl12
1700113H08Rik	Vwa8	Cd72	Npm3-ps1
Pomgnt1	Ap3s1-ps1	Tfdp2	Dnm1l
Nicn1	Tex9	Ppcdc	Gm8069
Pcsk4	Proser3	Gm13521	Gm8741
Sgsm2	Frat2	Npm1	Gm12955
Gm20342	Osbp15	Gm10110	Nudt3
Mmp12	Tfpi	Atad3a	Gnpat
MLlt3	Irak1bp1	Paip2b	Psmd7
Zfp606	St14	Timm10	Thyn1
Dand5	Serf1	Klhl9	Gm7251
Socs2	Mmachc	Rcc1	Prdx6b
Myb	Tmem186	Tspan5	2810025M15Rik
Hexim2	Papss2	Chek1	Dut
Adgrg7	Gm4535	Gng12	Rbmxl1
Pex10	Scly	Polr1c	Gm12848
Gfod2	Ddah2	Gm11349	Dcun1d5
Zfat	Zc3h7b	Abce1	Chtf8
Bbs12	Zfp687	Rcl1	Gm10131
Zfp597	Miga1	Pnkd	Luc7l
Nhs1l	Xpc	2610524H06Rik	Mcm7

Vsig10l	Zfp146	Gm43213	Abcf2
Phc1	Alg2	Kdelc1	Cacybp
Gimap5	Gm12611	Atr	Tdg
Eil2	2300009A05Rik	Rad18	Gm6065
Elane	4930581F22Rik	Gm3362	Rpl36-ps2
Nlgn2	Nmnat3	Ern1	Nip7
P3h1	Sdc1	Gm15800	Ccnh
Ccdc88c	9330159M07Rik	Amd1	Faf1
Gm16194	Vat1	Thop1	Erh
2610307P16Rik	Hist1h2bk	Gm15528	Ddx21
Zfp335os	Gm7901	Prtn3	Al506816
Zfp707	Slc20a2	Polr3h	Scd2
Mterf2	Gm16302	Mybbp1a	Ccdc58

Table 11: 653 genes which are upregulated during differentiation of EV cells, identifying those genes which have an associated C/EBP α peak in both ChIP-seq replicate experiments at Day 5 of differentiation

1600014C10RIK	DPP4	LPP	RNF166
2310035C23RIK	DPY19L1	LPXN	RNH1
3110043O21RIK	DPYSL2	LRCH1	RNPEP
5031439G07RIK	DRAM1	LRP1	RPS6KA1
AB124611	DTX2	LRRC25	RSAD2
ABCG1	DUSP1	LRRC75A	RTP4
ABHD12	DUSP10	LRRFIP2	RUNX1
ABHD15	DUSP22	LRRK1	S100A11
ABI1	DUSP3	LSP1	SAMD8
ACAA1A	DYRK1A	LST1	SAMHD1
ACBD5	E2F2	LY6E	SAT1
ACER3	EGR1	LY86	SBNO2
ACOT9	EHD4	LY9	SCARB2
ACSS1	ELMO2	LYN	SCIMP
ACTA2	ELMSAN1	LYZ1	SDC3
ACTR3	EMILIN2	LYZ2	SDC4
ADD3	ENSA	MACF1	SEC24B
ADGRE1	ENTPD1	MALAT1	SELPLG
ADGRE4	EPB41L2	MALT1	SEMA4A
AFF1	EPB41L4B	MAML1	SEMA4D
AHNAK	ERLIN1	MAP3K1	SESN2
AI839979	ETV3	MAP3K3	SGK3
AIM2	EVL	MAP3K8	SGPL1
AKR1A1	F630028O10RIK	MAP4	SGPP1
AKT3	FAM105A	MAPK14	SH3BP2
ALDH3A2	FAM129A	36951	SH3GLB1
ALOX5	FAM129B	MAX	SIDT2
ALOX5AP	FAM174A	MBNL1	SIGLEC1
ANKRD44	FAM46C	MCL1	SIRPA
ANXA1	FAM49B	MDFIC	SKIL
ANXA2	FAM69A	MEF2A	SLAMF7
ANXA6	FAR1	METRNL	SLAMF9
AP2A2	FBRSL1	MFSD5	SLC15A3
APBA1	FCGR3	MGAT4A	SLC15A4
APBB1IP	FCGR4	MICAL1	SLC16A7
APOBEC1	FEM1C	MILR1	SLC29A3
ARHGAP15	FES	MKNK1	SLC2A6
ARHGAP25	FGD3	MOB3A	SLC31A1
ARHGAP31	FGR	MPEG1	SLC35C1
ARID5A	FILIP1L	MS4A4A	SLC37A2
ARL4C	FKBP15	MS4A4B	SLC43A2
ARL5C	FKBP1B	MS4A4C	SLC44A2
ARL6IP5	FLNA	MS4A6B	SLC6A6
ARPC5	FMNL1	MS4A6C	SLC7A8
ARRB2	FNBP1	MS4A6D	SLFN1
ASGR2	FNIP2	MSRB1	SLFN2
ATF3	FOS	MTHFS	SMIM3
ATG7	FOXN2	MYADM	SMOX
ATP2B1	FOXRED2	MYD88	SMPDL3B
ATP6V1B2	FRMD4B	MYO1C	SNX10
AXL	FTH1	MYO1F	SNX2
AZI2	FTL1	MYO9B	SNX20

AZIN1	FYB	N4BP2L1	SOAT1
B430306N03RIK	G6PDX	NAGPA	SOCS1
B4GALT5	GAS7	NAIP5	SOCS3
BACH2	GBP2	NAPSA	SORL1
BC005537	GCNT1	NCF2	SP100
BCL2L11	GCNT2	NCKIPSD	SP2
BCL3	GGH	NCOR2	SPG21
BCL6	GM1966	NDEL1	SPI1
BEX6	GM6377	NEAT1	SPOP
BHLHE40	GM7367	NECAP1	SPTY2D1
BIN1	GM8369	NEDD9	SQSTM1
BLVRB	GNA15	NEK7	SRGAP2
BROX	GNG2	NFAM1	SSH1
BTG2	GNS	NFATC1	ST18
C3	GPR108	NFE2L2	ST3GAL2
C3AR1	GPR132	NFKBIA	ST8SIA1
CADM1	GPR141	NFKBIZ	ST8SIA4
CAMK1D	GPR146	NLRP3	STAT1
CAP1	GPR155	NOS1AP	STAT6
CAPG	GPR160	NOTCH2	STK17B
CAPN2	GPR183	NPC2	STX7
CAPZA2	GPR34	NPTN	STXBP3
CARD11	GRB2	NR4A1	SUB1
CARD19	GRN	NRP1	SUSD3
CASP4	GSAP	NRROS	SYK
CAST	GSDMD	NUAK2	SZRD1
CBL	GSN	NUB1	TAGAP
CCDC109B	HACD4	NXPE4	TALDO1
CCDC12	HCAR2	OSBPL9	TBC1D13
CCDC180	HCFC1R1	P2RX4	TBC1D8
CCDC50	HCK	P2RX7	TBC1D9
CCDC86	HDAC4	P2RY6	TDRD7
CCL2	HERPUD1	PADI2	TEC
CCL3	HEXA	PAG1	TECPR1
CCL6	HEXB	PAK1	TEP1
CCR1	HK2	PDXK	TET2
CCR2	HLX	PEL1	TFEB
CCRL2	HMHA1	PFKFB4	TGFB1
CD14	HMOX1	PHACTR2	THAP6
CD22	HPCAL1	PIAS1	THEMIS2
CD244	I830077J02RIK	PID1	TIFA
CD28	ICOSL	PIK3AP1	TIPARP
CD300A	ID3	PIK3CD	TLE3
CD300LB	IDS	PIK3R5	TLR1
CD300LF	IER2	PILRA	TLR13
CD48	IER5	PIP4K2A	TLR2
CD52	IFI205	PIRB	TLR4
CD53	IFITM3	PISD	TLR6
CD68	IFITM6	PLAC8	TMEM106A
CD74	IFNAR1	PLAUR	TMEM150B
CD82	IFNAR2	PLCL2	TMEM154
CD86	IFNGR1	PLD4	TMEM184B
CD9	IFNGR2	PLEC	TMEM189
CDC42SE1	IGSF6	PLEKHA1	TMEM192
CDC42SE2	IL10RA	PLEKHF2	TMEM229B
CDKN1A	IL13RA1	PLEKHG3	TMEM243
CFH	IL15	PLEKHM1	TMEM50B
CHMP4B	IL17RA	PLEKHM3	TMOD3
CHN2	IL18	PLEKHO2	TMSB10
CIB1	IL1R2	PLIN2	TMSB4X
CKB	IL21R	PLXDC1	TNFAIP2
CLCN7	IL3RA	PLXNC1	TNFRSF13B
CLEC4A2	IL4RA	PMAIP1	TNFRSF14
CLEC4B1	IL6RA	PNKP	TNFRSF1A
CLEC4N	IL6ST	PNPLA7	TNFSF8
CLEC7A	INPP4A	POT1B	TOR1A
CLN8	IQGAP1	PPP2R5A	TOR1AIP1
CMIP	IQGAP2	PRDX5	TOR3A
CMPK2	IRAK2	PREX1	TPD52
CMTR1	IRF2BP2	PRKAB2	TRAFD1
CNDP2	IRF5	PRKCD	TREM2
CNR2	IRF8	PRKCH	TSPYL1
CORO1A	ISG20	PRKD3	TTC7

CORO1B	ITGA1	PRKX	TUBGCP5
COTL1	ITGAM	PRR13	TULP4
CRLF2	ITGAX	PSAP	TXNDC16
CTNNA1	ITGB2	PSEN1	TYROBP
CTNND2	ITM2B	PSTPIP1	UBC
CTSB	ITPR1	PSTPIP2	USP12
CTSC	JAK2	PTAFR	USP18
CTSD	JUNB	PTGER4	USP25
CTSE	KDM7A	PTK2B	UVRAG
CTSZ	KIF1B	PTPN1	VAPB
CTTNBP2NL	KLF10	PTPN22	VASP
CX3CR1	KLF13	PTPRA	VCL
CXCL16	KLF3	PTPRC	VIM
CXCL2	KLF4	PTPRJ	VPS37B
CXCR4	KLF6	RAB3D	VRK1
CYB561A3	KLHL6	RAB8A	VSIR
CYBA	KLRA17	RACGAP1	WDR1
CYBB	KLRB1F	RALA	WDR26
CYFIP1	KLRK1	RAP1B	WHSC1L1
CYP4F16	LACC1	RAP2C	WIPF1
CYP4F18	LACTB	RAPH1	XBP1
CYTH4	LAIR1	RARA	YTHDF3
CYTIP	LAMP1	RARG	ZBP1
D1ERTD622E	LAPTM4A	RASGEF1B	ZBTB7A
DAB2	LASP1	RASSF4	ZBTB7B
DBNL	LBH	RASSF5	ZC3H12A
DCAF11	LCP1	RBM47	ZC3HAV1
DCK	LCP2	RBMS1	ZCCHC2
DCLRE1C	LGALS3	RCBTB2	ZDHHHC7
DDIT3	LGMN	RCHY1	ZFHX3
DEGS1	LIFR	RELL1	ZFP263
DENND1A	LILRA6	RGL1	ZFP277
DENND1B	LILRB4A	RGS2	ZFP36L2
DHX58	LITAF	RGS3	ZFP710
DIAPH2	LMLN	RHOG	ZFYVE26
DNA2	LMNA	RIN2	ZYX
DNAJB14	LPCAT4	RIN3	
DOCK4	LPIN1	RMND5B	
DPEP2	LPL	RNF115	

Table 12: Subset of 230 genes from Table 11 which are also upregulated in *CEBPA* N321D-transduced cells during differentiation in Flt3L

5031439G07RIK	FAM105A	LST1	RMND5B
ABHD15	FAM129B	LY6E	RPS6KA1
ABI1	FAM174A	LY86	RTP4
ACAA1A	FES	LYN	RUNX1
ACER3	FILIP1L	LYZ2	SAMHD1
AHNAK	FKBP15	MAP3K1	SAT1
AI839979	FMNL1	MAP3K8	SDC3
ALOX5AP	FRMD4B	MAP4	SDC4
ANXA6	FYB	36951	SEMA4D
APBA1	GAS7	MBNL1	SLC16A7
ARL4C	GCNT1	MEF2A	SLC2A6
ARL6IP5	GCNT2	MILR1	SLC44A2
AXL	GNG2	MPEG1	SLC6A6
BACH2	GNS	MS4A4B	SLFN2
BCL6	GPR141	MS4A4C	SMIM3
BEX6	GPR183	MS4A6B	SNX20
BLVRB	GPR34	MS4A6C	SOAT1
CADM1	GRN	MS4A6D	SP100
CAMK1D	GSN	MYADM	SPI1
CAPG	HLX	MYO1F	ST8SIA4
CCDC180	HMHA1	NAIP5	STAT1
CCL3	I830077J02RIK	NAPSA	STK17B
CCL6	IFI205	NEAT1	STX7
CCR1	IFITM3	NECAP1	TAGAP
CD14	IFITM6	NFAM1	TDRD7
CD28	IFNAR2	NFATC1	TEC
CD300A	IL10RA	NFKBIA	TECPR1
CD300LB	IL13RA1	NLRP3	TEP1

CD300LF	IL17RA	NOS1AP	TET2
CD52	IL1R2	NOTCH2	TFEB
CD68	IL6RA	NPTN	THEMIS2
CD74	IL6ST	NR4A1	TIFA
CD82	INPP4A	NRROS	TIPARP
CDC42SE1	IRF2BP2	P2RX7	TLR2
CDKN1A	IRF5	P2RY6	TMEM229B
CFH	IRF8	PAK1	TMEM243
CKB	ITGA1	PIK3R5	TMEM50B
CLEC4A2	ITGAM	PILRA	TMSB10
CLEC7A	ITGAX	PIP4K2A	TNFRSF13B
CLN8	ITGB2	PIRB	TOR1AIP1
CMPK2	KDM7A	PLAC8	TOR3A
CTNNA1	KLF13	PLD4	TPD52
CTNND2	KLF3	PLEC	TRAFD1
CTSB	KLHL6	PLEKHA1	TUBGCP5
CTSE	KLRB1F	PLEKHF2	TULP4
CTSZ	KLRK1	PMAIP1	TYROBP
CX3CR1	LAIR1	PREX1	USP12
CYBB	LAMP1	PRKCD	USP18
CYFIP1	LASP1	PRKX	VSIR
CYTH4	LBH	PRR13	WDR26
CYTIP	LCP2	PSAP	WHSC1L1
D1ERTD622E	LGALS3	PSTPIP2	YTHDF3
DHX58	LGMN	PTPRC	ZBTB7A
DPEP2	LIFR	RARA	ZC3HAV1
DUSP22	LILRB4A	RASSF4	ZFP263
EHD4	LITAF	RASSF5	ZFP36L2
EPB41L4B	LPXN	RBM47	
EVL	LSP1	RIN2	

Table 13: Subset of 126 genes from Table 12 which are also bound by FLAG antibody at Day 5

ACER3	FRMD4B	LY86	RASSF4
AHNAK	FYB	LYN	RBM47
A1839979	GAS7	MAP3K1	RIN2
APBA1	GCNT1	MAP4	RPS6KA1
AXL	GCNT2	36951	RTP4
BLVRB	GNG2	MBNL1	RUNX1
CADM1	GNS	MEF2A	SDC4
CAMK1D	HLX	MILR1	SEMA4D
CCL3	I830077J02RIK	MPEG1	SLC16A7
CCL6	IFITM3	MS4A6B	SLC2A6
CCR1	IFITM6	MYO1F	SMIM3
CD14	IFNAR2	NAIP5	SOAT1
CD28	IL17RA	NECAP1	SPI1
CD300A	IL6RA	NFAM1	ST8SIA4
CD300LB	IL6ST	NFATC1	STK17B
CDKN1A	INPP4A	NLRP3	STX7
CLEC7A	IRF2BP2	NOS1AP	TAGAP
CMPK2	IRF8	NOTCH2	TDRD7
CTSB	ITGAM	NR4A1	TEC
CTSE	ITGAX	NRROS	TEP1
CTSZ	KLF13	PILRA	TET2
CYFIP1	KLF3	PIP4K2A	THEMIS2
CYTH4	KLHL6	PLAC8	TIPARP
D1ERTD622E	KLRB1F	PLD4	TLR2
DPEP2	LAIR1	PLEKHA1	TMEM229B
DUSP22	LAMP1	PLEKHF2	TMEM243
EHD4	LBH	PMAIP1	TPD52
EPB41L4B	LCP2	PREX1	WHSC1L1
FAM105A	LGALS3	PRKCD	ZC3HAV1
FAM174A	LGMN	PSAP	ZFP263
FES	LITAF	PSTPIP2	
FKBP15	LY6E	PTPRC	

Table 14: Subset of 36 genes from Table 13 which are downregulated on differential expression between *CEBPA* N321D versus EV-transduced cells at Day 5

ACER3	DPEP2	LY86	PREX1
AHNAK	FYB	MPEG1	PRKCD
AXL	IFITM3	MS4A6B	PSAP
CCL6	IFITM6	MYO1F	RTP4
CCR1	IRF2BP2	NFAM1	TDRD7
CD300A	ITGAM	NOTCH2	THEMIS2
CMPK2	LGALS3	NR4A1	TLR2
CTSB	LITAF	PLD4	TPD52
CTSZ	LY6E	PLEKHF2	ZC3HAV1

Table 15: Genes which have an associated FLAG peak at Day 5 in both replicate ChIP-seq experiments

160 genes with high-confidence FLAG peak at Day 5 which are also downregulated on differential expression between *CEBPA* N321D and EV-transduced cells at Day 5

ABCG1	DCK	LACC1	PSTPIP1
ABHD12	DEGS1	LAPTM4A	PTAFR
ACER3	DENND1B	LGALS3	PTPN1
ACTA2	DPEP2	LITAF	RAP1B
AHNAK	DPP4	LMLN	RBPMS
ALPK1	DUSP1	LPCAT2	RCBTB2
AMZ1	EMILIN2	LPCAT4	RG52
ANXA2	EP300	LY6E	RHOG
AOAH	ESYT1	LY86	RSAD2
APOBEC1	FAM129A	LYZ1	RTP4
ATF3	FAM69A	MAN1A	SEC24B
ATP10A	FCGR4	MAPK14	SIK3
ATP2B1	FOS	MARCH1	SIRPA
ATP6V1B2	FYB	MCTP1	SKIL
AW112010	GBP2	MPEG1	SLC15A3
AXL	GM1966	MS4A6B	SLC7A11
B4GALT5	GPR160	MS4A7	SLC7A8
C3AR1	GSAP	MSRB1	SMPDL3B
CCL6	HACD4	MYCBP2	SORL1
CCR1	HCAR2	MYO1F	ST8SIA1
CD180	HIST1H1C	NABP1	STK38
CD22	HMOX2	NAMPT	TBC1D8
CD300A	ID3	NFAM1	TDRD7
CD84	IER2	NOTCH2	TGFBI
CD9	IFITM1	NPC2	THEMIS2
CDK14	IFITM3	NR4A1	TLR1
CLEC10A	IFITM6	NXPE4	TLR13
CLEC4A1	IFNGR2	PDE7B	TLR2
CLEC4N	IL15	PID1	TMEM150B
CLEC5A	INF2	PIK3AP1	TMSB4X
CMPK2	IQGAP1	PIM1	TNFRSF1A
CNDP2	IRAK2	PLD4	TNFSF8
COTL1	IRF2BP2	PLEKHF2	TPD52
CSF3R	ITGAM	PLEKHM3	TTC7
CTSB	ITM2B	PLIN2	WIPF1
CTSC	ITPR1	PPP2R5A	XDH
CTSZ	JAK2	PREX1	ZBP1
CTTNBP2NL	KCNK13	PRKCD	ZC3H12A
CYP4F18	KLF6	PRKCH	ZC3HAV1
DAB2	L1CAM	PSAP	ZYX

49 genes with high-confidence FLAG peak at Day 5 which are also upregulated on differential expression between *CEBPA* N321D and EV-transduced cells at Day 5

8430429K09RIK	COL19A1	INSL6	SLC44A1
ABCD2	CTR9	KATNAL1	SLPI
ABHD6	CTSG	LDLRAD4	SOC32
AFAP1	D930015E06RIK	MYB	SORCS2
AK2	DHRS3	MYOG	TACO1
ARAP2	DR1	NEIL1	TMEM229B

ATP1B3	DTX4	PI15	TRP53RKB
AW209491	EPHA7	RAB44	XPC
B3GNT2	FNDC3B	RCN1	ZFP369
BACE1	GAS2	SDC1	ZNRF1
CBX2	HTRA3	SERPINB1A	
CHSY1	IL6ST	SGCG	
COBLL1	INO80DOS	SIX1	